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BLOOM || kny x tmnt 2014 ✓

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Summary

In which the Flower Hashira is reborn in the modern world and meets not-so ordinary brothers.

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- kny x tmnt 2014 (bayverse)
- manga spoiler!

Chapter 1: Tragedy

" Kanae, smile at the camera! "

The child looked over her shoulders to her parents, displaying a smile so sweet that it melted the adults' hearts. Indeed, they were so blessed to be given such a beautiful daughter. Her smooth black hair, pair of purple-ish pink eyes that sparkled when she was happy; she was the definition of true beauty in the parents' eyes.

While the parents were gushing over on how adorable the photos of their daughter they had taken, the child went to continue enjoying the view of the Central Park lake.

Perhaps it wasn't a coincidence that she was given the same name as she had in her first life. She closed her eyes, feeling the soothing breeze of the autumn wind. If she remembered correctly, it had been 3 years since she was reborn in a new world, in the future. She recalled the last thing she saw as death came to embrace her 102 years ago.

" Kanae nii-san! "

The girl bit her lips, her expression darkened. Oh, her poor, little sister Shinobu. Her sweet, small sister, whom she wanted to live a better life rather than spending her days slaying demons just like she did. Kanae always felt a sense of regret when she remembered the promise she made with Shinobu; how they both swore to train and become stronger so they could spare any humans from experiencing the same sorrow like the sisters went through on the night their parents were murdered by a demon.

Kanae knew her little sister possessed quite a small figure, but she never expected her to even unable cutting off the neck of a demon. Seeing how desperate and hard work Shinobu was, how she was force to go through another solution to become a slayer, Kanae began to regret pulling Shinobu into the dangerous work.

" Shinobu...I always want you to live a happy life. "

" I am happy fighting along side with you, nii-san. "

How could Kanae forced her sister to leave the corps when she said that? So she let it be, trying to be optimistic and looking at the situation in positive side. Shinobu was the first slayer to invent lethal poison to be used on the demons, that alone an impressive accomplishment already. Not to mention her small and light body helped adding her speed movements. She was already slaying dozens of demons with her poison, she had a high chance on becoming a Hashira in the near future! That's just how powerful Shinobu had become.

But Kanae still worried.

Shinobu believed that demons deserve no mercy, but Kanae thought different. In her heart, she knew that there would always be a regretful demon, one that hate being a demon. After

all, demons used to be humans. She always tried to seek any demons that show remorse in their behavior.

Maybe Kanae would have found one already, if she hadn't met death so early.

" Tell me who did it...tell me which demon was it! "

This was what she worried about in her sister. How sometimes her emotions clouded her judgement, how she would often let her anger darkened her heart, blinding her from thinking logically. Kanae hated the sorrow, vengeful expression Shinobu expressed as she was dying in her little sister's arms. Shinobu wouldn't budge, she kept urging her to tell which demon was it.

As the last few of tears slipped out of her eyes, Kanae whispered the name of the demon, wondering if she made the correct choice in telling Shinobu. Her poor little sister must have spent days after her death training herself and searching for Douma. She wondered how long did it take for her to find him. Deep inside Kanae, she knew Shinobu could never defeat Douma. At least, not alone.

" Come on, Kanae, dad is going to bring you to his workplace. " Her current mother brought her into a pair of warm embrace, nuzzling her small nose. " New York City is different from Tokyo, but we'll manage. "

In this second life, Kanae was born in a family where her mother was a Japanese while her father was an American. Her now father was stationed in New York City for his work, thus explaining why the family had moved from Tokyo to the United States. It also helped that her mother had a brother living in the same city, so he allowed them to live in his house until they could buy their own.

Kanae smiled, nuzzling into her mother's neck. She was grateful to earn herself another loving parents just like she had in her first life. Maybe, after a few years, she would be gifted a little sibling...a little sister.

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Eric Sacks looked quite youthful to be the CEO of The Sacks Industry. There was friendliness in the crack of his smile as he greeted Kanae's father, they both exchanged words in Japanese. Kanae gave a small reaction at hearing Sacks speaking fluently in Japanese, nodding formally at her mother before leading the family into the building.

' Is he Japanese? ' Kanae thought, her eyes inspecting the man's characteristics in his appearance. ' Maybe he was raised in Japan. Or mixed blood, like me. '

"...And talk about the devil! " Sacks grinned when a man walked out of a laboratory with papers in his hand. " O'Neil, come meet your new lab partner! "

Kanae's current father looked excited as he greeted the man, stating that he was interested in seeing their work. In her first life, her parents had a clinic, hence why she started the butterfly

estate so injured slayers could come to rest and heal. Her now father worked as a scientist and often put child Kanae in his lap and began to rant about science stuff.

She was quite proud of herself to have photographic memory, so any information she remembered in her first life wasn't forgotten. Plus, she also tended injured slayers, so she was already accustomed to related subjects. But modern technology had improved and so did many things. Kanae was interested in learning any new discovery of medical industry, she already planned to open a clinic of her own in the future.

" Is that your daughter? What an adorable child! " O'Neil chuckled, he looked over his shoulders towards the lab. " April! Come here! "

Walking out of the laboratory was a young girl. She had the same hair colour as her father, and there was also similarity in the way she smiled at them. In her hands was a small cage with a rat in it.

" This is my daughter April. " There was a hint of pride in his voice as he smiled down at his daughter with nothing but parental love. " She's my favourite lab partner. "

" Oh geez, do I need to compete with miss April here? " Kanae giggled at her father's joke, the others cracked out chuckles as well.

April seemed to notice Kanae and her eyes sparkled. She went closer to the child, and Kanae now noticed she had a gap between her tooth.

" Hello! I am April! " She put up the cage so the child could take a better look. " This is Splinter! "

Kanae's mother giggled. " I heard you also have turtles that you named them after the Renaissance artists? "

" Yup! " The girl replied, popping the letter 'p'.

" Turtles. Rat. " Kanae smiled, eyeing the rodent in the tank. Her vocabulary was limited but she had practice speaking a lot. " They are cute! " The rat reminded her of Uzui's trained, muscular mice.

April laughed. " Yeah, I think so too! "

Sacks went to ruffle her hair. " Kids are so energetic nowadays. I don't mind giving a tour, but there's a report of gas leaking and I am checking it in now. I don't advice for children to be here right now. "

Kanae's father nodded in understanding. He turned to his wife and daughter, gave them pecks on the cheek before bidding them goodbye. O'Neil nodded at them, taking April back into the lab so she could put Splinter back before taking her home.

" Let's go home, Kanae, " her mother said, already heading back to the elevator, " we can see dad again tonight. "

The reincarnated Hashira smiled and rested her head on her mother's shoulders.

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Kanae has always been observant and sharp, traits that saved her from being ambushed by demons many times in the past. Granted, she could be careless sometimes, but she had learnt better and very rarely did she let her guard down in any mission. Even the tiniest thing could get her attention, alerting her for any incoming danger.

Perhaps that was why she could clearly see the troublesome and stressed look on her father's face nowadays. It had been a month since he worked in the Sacks industry, and everything was well until a week ago. He came back home after midnight, the only time he came home so late. It was always before 10.30 p.m..

She remembered bits of information that night. Kanae was woken up from her slumber by the raising voices outside her bedroom. Curious, she went to check on the source of the sound and found her father and her uncle seemingly in an argument in the kitchen.

" I am telling you, I know what I am doing -- "

" You know what you're actually doing? Bringing danger to my sister and my niece! "

Her uncle Kenji, was raised in the city after his grandparents got a divorce and he moved from Japan with his father. His father opened a dojo that teaches material arts and swordsmanship, in which Kenji inherited later on. Kenji was an energetic and friendly man, seeing him getting angry was just as unusual as seeing her calm and quiet father looking stressed out.

Perhaps the adults would have continued their argument if it wasn't for Kenji spotting Kanae peeking behind the wall. He dropped his anger tone and called out her name gently, asking what she was doing at such time. Kanae's father immediately scooped her up in his arms, rocking her slowly as he told Kenji that their argument would take place in another time before taking Kanae back into her room.

" Dad and oji-san fight? " The child inquired.

" No, sweetie, " her father's smile was quite strained, " we didn't fight, it's nothing serious."

She wasn't convinced.

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Things were doing so well. The day started just as normal as it had been. How did history repeat itself once again?

There was a fire accident happened in Sacks Industry, in the laboratory Kanae's father worked in. He and O'Neil, as well as their project, had gone up in flame. Her mother immediately dropped everything when she was told of the fire and left Kanae with Kenji, unexpectedly meeting the same fate as her husband when the car she drove crashed. Kenji almost passed out on the doorway when policemen came and delivered the devastated news.

Kanae had openly sobbed the moment she heard it. Kenji had brought her into a hug, trying to stop her from crying, but he himself had tears running down his face. The thought that a mere child understanding the concept of death didn't occurred to him, as he was too occupied with the sorrow.

" Shh, baby, it's okay." Kenji tightened his embrace around his niece, his voice cracked.

No, nothing is okay. Kanae hiccuped. Why did I lose them again?

Chapter 2: Old Face

To be honest, Kanae was an odd child. Not in a bad way, it just made her seemed questionable. The way she talked, spoke, walked -- nothing in them was like a 10-years-old child.

She never threw any tantrums, she wasn't picky with the food, she wasn't afraid to go to the bathroom alone in the dark. To sum it all, Kanae was a child that didn't give any troubles, but could made others worried with how mature she was for her age. It was like she was a grown up living in a child's body.

To say that she was gifted didn't seemed suitable. Sure, she was the smartest in her class, the most athletic in sport, the prettiest girl (or so he was told by her classmates), the only one who could play musical instruments like piano (he didn't even send her to piano class) and she was very polite with everyone --

Kanae was the definition of perfect.

Kenji was sure her parents would be so proud of her, she was the apple of their eyes. He, too, was proud of everything she had accomplished so far. But his niece was odd, that for sure. Plus, one time, she said a statement at him before he tucked her in bed for the night threw him off guard.

" Would you believe me if I say that this is my second life? "

He had taken a few seconds to reply. A smile on his lips, his hand patting her head, as he chuckled out that would be quite a miracle.

" You know, my grandparents told me that I am a descendant of a swordsmith. They said that my ancestors used to craft blades for this organization called the Demon Slayer. "

He used a tone like he was telling a bedtime story, that the story was fictional, fantasy, fairytale-like. He would've gotten back to his feet and leave when his niece suddenly grabbed the sleeves of his shirt with such speed that it made him stumbled a bit.

Her eyes were wide and excited.

" Tell me more. "

Confused with such reaction, Kenji sat back down on the side of her bed. He told her the story his grandparents always told him; the time where demons existed and brought chaos, the unofficial organization that slayed the demons and how they managed to defeat the demon king at last. By the end of the story, Kenji was shocked to see his niece had tears streaming down her face.

" They did it, " she began to sob, " they all did it. All of our efforts were not in vain at all. "

Kenji had asked what she meant by that. With tears still pooling in her eyes, she displayed a bright smile to him.

" I told you, this is my second life. In my first, I was a demon slayer. I was the Flower Hashira. I was slain by an Uppermoon demon before I could see the corps victory of defeating the demon king, Kibutsuji Muzan. "

He would've thought she was lying if she didn't said the word like Hahsira, Uppermoon and the name of the demon king. His grandparents had told him of the ranks in the slayers, the powerful type of demons and so. He didn't include the words when he was telling the story to her, so how did she know? There was no other explanation than her telling the truth. It was quite unbelievable, but he had to give in and accepted this.

Kenji still wondered how he managed to accept and treat this like any other normal day, even if it had been 2 years since she revealed the truth to him. Maybe because she was still his beloved niece, reincarnated or not. He still loved her, but he had to admit that it was a little bit disturbing to know her mind wasn't literally a child, and he had pampered her like one.

When Kanae began to take material arts under his teaching, he wasn't that surprised to see how quick she mastered the steps. Not to mention the moment she held a wooden sword, Kenji immediately knew that she would mastered swordsmanship as well. She was a Hashira in her former life after all, it was quite to be expected, even if her body didn't inherited the memory her mind did.

" Why did you want to learn all of this if there's no more demons? "

He had asked her once during their usual training. She had stopped swinging her wooden sword and gave him a lopsided smile.

" To prepare myself if I encounter any humans that act like demons. "

Which meant that she wanted to protect herself in any danger. Kenji respected that, acknowledging that the self defense arts she took would come in handy someday.

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Kanae had grown into a much more beautiful young lady of 18-years-old, everyone at her school adored her, even the teachers and staff. Not only her beauty captured their hearts, but also her gentle and kind-hearted personality got her very famous.

Thanks to her working a part-time job managing the dojo with her uncle, many people signed up the classes, mainly to see the beauty in action. Kenji wasn't fond of the attention his niece was getting, fearing that it might attracted bad people, hence why Kanae was restricted to be in the dojo at certain times when people swarmed in for training classes.

Kenji was getting worried now. He had sent Kanae out to avoid his students eyeing her too much, and while he never doubted her ability to fight, it was getting too late for his comfort. Her shadow wasn't even on sight and she wasn't picking up her phone. He was halfway to going outside, already putting on his shoes, when the front door clicked opened.

" Kanae? Is that you? " He rushed to the front. " Where were you? I was about to -- "

His niece stood in the doorway; the long skirt she wore that day was torn up to her knees, her white blouse was covered in dirt, a small but visible cut on her cheek, and she was holding a sword -- one that Kenji knew wasn't one of his because he had never seen that design before in his household.

But his most astonishment was when a certain brunette slipped through the entrance, standing right behind Kanae. She was drenched all over, a few scratches on her face and a phone in her hand.

" Foot Clan activities. Trying to record it. Got spotted. Kanae saved me. " Was what April managed to say quickly before she stumbled forward, sneezing loudly.

Chapter 3: Surprise

The Foot Clan, a domestic terrorist organization that released its terror throughout the city of New York. They gained their name when its members step over the good people of this city with no regard, no discriminating with their choice of victims. It had been about 3 years since they made their name infamous, sending people terrified and restless.

It reminded the reincarnated Hashira of the time when demons still existed.

" So let me get this straight, " Kenji sighed heavily, " you noticed the Foot Clan activity at the dock, and instead of reporting it to the authority, you went and tried to record them. You got spotted, and fell into the water in the process of running away. "

April sniffed, clutching the thick quilt she was covered on. " Yeah, that's about right. "

" And how did Kanae -- ? "

" We actually met at a cafe shop by the lotus street. April was on her break from work and greeted me first because she still remembered me. " Kanae explained. " We had a lovely chat and didn't noticed how much time passed. By then, it was already sunset and April offered to walk me home when we spotted a van with Foot Clan soldiers driving off to the dock. April insisted on following them, so I got worried and tagged along. "

Once she finished pouring the tea blend into a mug, she passed it to April, whom gave her a gratitude nod. Kenji sighed for the second time, frowning at them.

" I cannot believe you risk your and a child's life for a news content, O'Neil -- "

" Technically, I am a young adult. " Kanae cut in.

" -- I thought the better of you. I know that we haven't talked much after the incident..." Kenji's voice softened, the three of them vividly remember the past they would rather not bring up, "...but you gotta be more careful. The Foot Clan is not to be underestimated. They've killed people. "

April pressed her lips, looking down at her cup. " I know, I am sorry for exposing Kanae to danger too. But she was really impressive, fighting those armed guys with a sword she stole from them? I might interview you, Kanae. "

" I'd rather not. I am just glad we both made it out alive. "

" Not unscratched. " Kenji retort, brushing a thumb gently over the patched up cut on his niece's face.

" At least you have some content for future news, April? " Kanae brushed away her uncle's hand, squeezing it in assurance that she was feeling okay.

The woman looked at her phone on the table, screen broken, wet from getting into the water. She shook her head.

" I doubt I can turn it on now with that state. "

Later on, Kenji offered to let April bunked in for the night, scowling when she tried to refuse and ranting about how dangerous it would be after everything that happened. Kanae gave the woman a sympathetic smile as she lead her to the guest room.

" Is he always like that? " April asked, taking a seat on the bed. " The last time I talked to him was when I was 13 and he treated me an ice cream. "

" He's getting a bit restless nowadays. There were Foot Clan soldiers sighting nearby my school and he had pushed training on me harder than before. " Kanae sat next to April. " I guess tonight made him more extra worried and I understand him. Hopefully the soldiers won't come after us."

She watched the woman rubbed her hands together, the broken phone placed on her thigh. April had outgrown her cute and adorable look of a young teenager, now looking more mature and beautiful than Kanae last remembered. The sparkle in her eyes stayed the same, and it was an evidence for the reincarnated girl to know April was still the same curious and bright girl she had known for some time years ago. Sometimes Kanae's father would bring her to his workplace, excitingly explained the project he was working with the O'Neil. Young April would babysit Kanae and the girls would squealed in delight at seeing their fathers performing magnificent science experiment in front of them.

" I would rather they go after me than you, my face is recognizable in the tv anyway. " April said. " I am sorry for exposing the both of us in danger. "

" Keep in mind that curiosity kills the cat next time then. " Kanae patted her back.

" Ah, but satisfaction brought it back. "

The black-haired girl giggled, shaking her head. Honestly, if Shinobu was here, neither of them would hear the end of it. Kenji was more merciful, seeing their tired state so he let them off for now. Shinobu, meanwhile, would've continued scolding after patching up and cleaning them up.

Bidding the woman goodnight, Kanae let herself out and headed to her room. She glanced at the sword she stole from a soldier, now laying on the kitchen counter. Kenji must have went to his workshop in the back to get a sheath for it; his father had also passed him the knowledge of swordsmanship, and Kenji earned himself more than enough for his crafting. It was more like a hobby, he told her before, because he wanted to focus more the dojo handling.

Kanae looked at her reflection on the mirror wall, remembering about Shinobu again. She wouldn't have let go of the small injury Kanae got, she would have went off to a long ranting, sarcasm would be thrown here and there.

With a softened and sad eyes, the reincarnated Hashira looked away, going upstairs to her room.

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" She's beauty, she's grace, she will punch you in the face! "

Kanae could felt a sweat drop appeared on the side of her head, an awkward smile on her face as she looked up to her friend, who was currently cheering just as loudly as the other passengers of the train, complimenting her for capturing a pervert on the train. She had the pervert's arm locked on his back as he cried out in pain, a young girl who had been his victim of inappropriate touching for the last minute thanked Kanae with tears in her eyes. A few other men offered to hold the culprit for the rest of the journey, letting the girl to stand back straight and made her way back to her seat.

" Man, that was so heroic of you! " Penelope clapped her hands, a grin on her face. " To think your eyes are so sharp to catch up what that pervert was doing...what more surprises do you have, Kanae? You're pretty, smart and can kick butts! "

Kanae shook her head, a bit unfamiliar with how much cheering and compliments she was receiving. As a slayer, thank you from the people she saved was quite rare -- unless they didn't went off running first or frozen in shock. Sure, there would be those who thanked her, but openly and loudly being cheered for from strangers was quite an experience. Penelope contributed to those loud cheering, having a loud voice box Kanae had accustomed with for years since they sat next to each other in classes. The excitement had dried out a bit as the train came to a stop, finally arriving at its destination. While Penelope went to rant about how she would've punched the pervert if she saw him first, Kanae received a message from Kenji, who knew about her outing with Penelope for their art project discussion.

" Did your uncle mentioned why I haven't attend his class for the last week? " Penelope lowered her voice, turning her gaze to the screen phone.

Kanae smiled in amusement. " He missed his favorite student, you should drop by next weekend."

" Favorite, my foot! I swear he just finds the opportunity to kick my butt on the training mat! " Penelope huffed.

" I mean, you really should keep a closer attention and lessen making jokes while sparring with him ? " Teased Kanae.

" Hey, where's the fun in it if everyone is so serious? Me goofing around lowered my opponent's guard too; remember the first time I successfully pinned you to the ground? "

" I am weak to puns and you took advantage of that. "

" That's why you shouldn't told me of your weakness! As Master Kenji once said; '*Do not reveal your weakness for it will lead you to your downfall*' " "

Penelope did such a bad impression of Kenji that Kanae snorted. They both stared at each other and cracked up again, making their way out of the train and into the platform. Their laughter died the moment they heard screaming and gunshot echoed in the station. People began to run pass them, all rushing to the exit.

Out of the corner of Kanae's eyes, she saw armed men with guns swarmed in, grabbing random citizens and forced them to the ground. *The Foot soldiers*. She grabbed onto Penelope's wrist and tugged her friend towards the exit as well; Penelope was not used to being in the situation, so she was frozen in shock and let Kanae lead her to safety.

They were lucky enough to slip out of the train subway onto the surface. To Kanae's shock, she saw a familiar journalist hurried towards the subway.

" Penelope, you go to safety first." Kanae shook her friend out the trance.

" What? Where are you going? "

" Just go first! I'll call you later! " She pushed her friend away and turned around, ignoring her name being called out.

April, for news content, you were ready to risk your life? Kanae frowned at this, jumping to hide behind a pillar stone. She managed to catch up with the woman, keeping her eyes locked at her from her hiding place. A Foot soldier noticed her presence, unfortunately, resulting to April being dragged away. Kanae rushed out of her hiding place and swung her hand to the soldier's neck, successfully knocking him out with a hit to his nerve.

April turned to her in surprise. " Kanae? What are you doing here? "

" I should've ask you that first. " The black-haired girl grabbed onto the woman's wrist, wanting to bring her out of danger.

To both of their horror, guns were pointed towards their direction, soldiers beginning to swarm around them. Kanae and April squirmed under the soldiers' hold as they were brought into the station, dozens of citizens being held at gunpoint. Kanae scanned the area as she forcefully being tossed to the floor with April; there were too many armed soldiers, and a couple of children were among those who were being hostages. It wasn't like she planned to play the hero all the time, but it would be great if she could at least distract the soldiers for the citizens to escape. This was one of those occasion where she wished she still had her sword and hidden weapons in her slayer uniform.

A Japanese woman with the same clothing as the soldiers barked towards her direction. " *Hey! What are you doing?! "*

Looking over her shoulders, Kanae saw April had whipped out her phone and was in the middle of recording the situation. She gave her an unbelievable look, wondering just how much brazen she could be. A new train dashed across, the light in the subway suddenly gave out. Among the sound of whimpers and groans, came a rather excited unfamiliar voice bellowing through the place. The flickering light came from the moving train blocked anyone from seeing a clear view of new incoming people suddenly sweeping in, charging towards the

Foot soldiers. Everything was a mess and there was a lot of yelling, shouting and gun shooting.

To think the days where Kanae practiced her eyesight to get used to darkness just like she did back in her first life actually came useful now; she caught glimpse of large figures knocking the soldiers to the wall, freeing the hostages. The outline of the moving figures didn't looked human-like and a sudden chills ran through Kanae at the thought that they might be demons.

But demons don't save people, do they? She watched one last soldier being thrown across before the figures disappeared, not giving any chance for the others to take a look at them. The light came on again and people were buzzing about their unknowns saviours. Kanae helped a woman in front of her to stand up before realizing April had dashed out of the subway. After making sure the woman was unharmed, Kanae rushed out to follow the journalist, not having much difficulty with the speed in her steps to finally catch up.

" April! " She called out, trailing behind the woman as they passed a few blocks. April rounded a corner in an alley and started to climb on the fire escape stairs by the side of the building. Kanae would've called out her name again if only April didn't looked down at her and put a finger on her lips, a sign to tell her be quiet.

' Did she saw where the saviors went? ' Kanae began to climb along, just to make sure she was okay. Boy, her curiosity and stubbornness was unlimited and knew no boundary.

April had came to a halt by the end of the stairs to the rooftop, pulling out her phone again with shaky hands. By now, Kanae could hear muffled voices from the rooftop, ones that sounded just like the ones who saved them in the subway. Kanae poked April's ankle with her finger, wanting to tell her that they should leave those saviors alone. As a slayer of a secret and unofficial organization in the past, maintaining her job as a secret was a must to avoid unwanted attention and didn't caused panic in the public. She understood the mysterious heroes if they wanted to keep their identities secret, knowing they must've their own reason. April didn't paid any attention to her and Kanae tugged at her pants, mumbling her name.

Click!

Time seemed to stop. There was a very tense silence and Kanae knew instantly that April had been spotted. She reached out and grabbed her jacket, but then a chain was thrown off the rooftop, wrapping itself around April's arm. With a rather powerful tug, both April and Kanae were pulled into the rooftop. April landed messily with a loud thud, the chain freed itself, while Kanae managed to break her fall and landed beside the journalist.

" Wait, there were two chicks? "

" Hey, shh! "

Kanae was helping April got to her feet, when someone landed in front of them. The black-haired girl went to shield April, slowly taking in the large figure. A huge and tall humanoid turtle towered over them, his body was armed and a pair of Japanese weapons sais stuck on his belt. The upper half of his head was wrapped with a red bandana, his eyes glared down at them.

" *Give me the camera.* " He began to speak.

" *Look, he's using his batman voice!* " A second voice hushed out, sounding more excited. "
Oh they're so hot I can feel my she'll tightening! "

" We can *hear* you! " The red-masked turtle hissed at the remark, before turning back and making his way closer to the bewildered girls. " Look, if you don't give me the camera -- "

" *Enough!* " Another voice boomed, a second armed giant turtle spun in the air and landed on the edge of the roof, blocking the stairway. " Back off, Raph! "

The red-masked turtle put up his hands and turned around, muttering. " I only saw batman once. "

Unlike the first one, this one had a blue mask on and in his hands were a pair of katanas. April had wrapped her hands around Kanae's arms as they watched the blue-masked turtle hopped off the edge and started to approach them. His steps and way of approaching seemed careful and slow, looking like he didn't want to scare them off.

" Ma'am -- I apologize...my colleague here forgot to say please...so, would you *please*, " he pressed the word, " give us the camera? "

Kanae flinched slightly when April suddenly shrieked into her ear; turning around, a third turtle had made his own appearance.

" Woah, woah! Chill! It's just a mask! Don't freak out! It's just a mask! " The third one began to tug off his orange mask and smiled innocently at them. " See? Right? "

With a soft gasp, April's eyes rolled to the back of her head. Kanae managed to catch her before she could make contact with the ground. She checked her pulse and sighed in relief, knowing her friend only passed out due to shock. Looking at the turtles one by one, Kanae smiled awkwardly at them.

" *Um...hello?* "

Chapter 4: Mutants

Chapter Summary

Where do you think Shinobu gets her scary angry smile from? I always like to think that the only thing scarier than Shinobu getting angry is Kanae. The soft-spoken and gentle character that never even raises her voice? Get on your knees and apologize, you have sinned when you make her mad.

A fourth turtle emerged from the dark; purple mask around his eyes, headsets on, gadgets stripped to his wrists and shell. He adjusted the glasses he had on, approaching with cautious.

"I need to check if your friend is all right there." Different from the other three, his voice was much more soft and gentle, but there was a distress and awkwardness in it.

Kanae looked down at the unconscious April; she wasn't wearing anything around her neck and her breathing was steady, the pulse she checked just now was still the same, and there was no injury she could detect on her body.

"She's fine, just fainted." Kanae informed.

The orange-masked turtle shuffled forward, holding a worn out cushion God-knows where he found it.

"Sorry, my bad." He placed the cushion near the girls, seeing that it might not help if he was too close to them and scared them again.

Kanae maintained a natural expression as she took the cushion and placed it under April's feet, just to have her legs being above her heart level. April's phone laid on the side, and Kanae picked it before handing it to the purple-masked turtle.

"Here you go," she offered, "just delete the picture she took -- don't snoop around, okay?"

Clearly the turtles weren't expecting such reaction, as they all stared at her in bewilderment. The purple-masked turtle nodded, carefully taking it from her and she noticed how he tried to avoid skin contact. Kanae stood up between the turtles and April as a sort of barrier.

She bowed slightly. "Thank you for saving us in the subway, and I am sorry on behalf of my friend here for taking your picture without permission."

The red-masked one grunted. "As if you need a permission from freaks like us --"

"Raph!" The blue-masked clicked his tongue.

" -- what? She thinks all of us are freaks! Look at her staring at us like we belong in the circus! " This Raph huffed, glaring sharply at her.

' It's been a long time since I've seen none human being like them. I guess staring too long is inappropriate. ' Kanae thought, turning her gaze away from his glare.

The orange-masked had broken out of his hesitance and smiled at her. " Cool! She's not afraid of us! " He jab a thumb to himself. " The name's Michaelangelo, the handsomest one out of everyone, as you've noticed. Mikey or Mike is the nickname, easiest to pronounce and get along with. "

He pointed towards the purple-masked turtle who was currently deleting the photo in April's phone. " Donatello, Donnie or Don; the backbone of the team, his IQ is the same as Albert Einstein -- " he turned to the blue-masked one, " -- as you always heard, blue is the leader, Leonardo or Leo, always full of plans and the master of swordsmanship -- " Mikey gestured to the red-masked turtle, " -- finally we have this big, cute and cuddly teddy bear, Raphael, Raph, Raphie -- "

Raph turned his glare to him.

" -- if teddy bear has homicidal tendencies. " Mikey finished.

' He's full of energy. ' Kanae smiled. " My name is Kanae, and this is my friend April O'Neil. "

" Yeah, we know O'Neil, " Donnie nodded, " always seen her in Channel's 6. "

Talk about the devil, April groaned, finally regaining her conscious. Kanae knelt beside her, holding her hands in reassurance. Donnie leaned down and shone a flashlight to her eyes, as he bombarded her with questions of her awareness of surrounding and such. Kanae placed a hand gently on the turtle, surprising him slightly with the contact.

" Give her a bit space there, Donnie, " she turned back to her friend, " how are you feeling, April? "

The woman's eyes had gone wide again, staring at the giant turtles. " Holy cow, I wasn't dreaming...what -- what are you guys? "

Leo placed his knuckle against his palm and bowed respectfully. " Ma'am, we're ninjas. "

" We're mutants. " Raph rolled his eyes.

" Technically, we're turtles. " Donnie answered.

" We're teenagers too! " Mikey piped out. " But we can have adults conversation. " He smirked.

April slowly got into her feet, Kanae's by her side to help. " So...you guys are ninjas...mutants turtles...teenagers? "

Donnie snorted. " Well, when you put it that way, it sounds ridiculous! "

" See, she's looking at us like we're freaks. " Raph huffed. " I bet that's why you took a picture of us -- to show your friends. "

Mikey clasped his hands together. " Bro, that's a good thing! Maybe they have some hot friends! "

Seeing Raph trying to intimidate them, April shrunk a bit, grasping onto Kanae. The black-haired girl frowned at the giant mutant.

" It's quite rude of you to assume such thing. Your appearance may be a rare sight, but that doesn't mean one would assume the worst of you. "

" Oh, you don't think of a monster when you see a giant turtle? " He glared down at her, leaning closer.

Kanae didn't falter at this. " A monster wouldn't save innocent people. Don't think so low of yourself."

He clicked his tongue, shaking his head. With a swift motion, he snatched April's phone off Donnie's grip and put it up for the owner for to look at it.

" Looking for this? " He taunted.

A sheer of panic flashed on April's face. " No, no, no, please don't break it, please -- "

" *How* many times do I have to tell you, " Leo sighed, taking the phone from him, " we don't break things. We fix them. Donnie already wiped the phone off, genius. Problem solved. Moving on. " he tossed the phone to April, who almost didn't catch it.

Raph gave him a push on the plastron. " And who put you in charge? "

" You know who did." Leo didn't backed away.

Mikey whistled in between them. " *Ooh*, tension. It's been a whole 30 minutes since you guys had last this argument. "

" Do they always argue? " Kanae wondered out loud.

" Oh, you have no idea! "

Donnie got in between them, his eyes fixated towards the gadget on his wrist. " Leonardo, if want to make it home before master notices, we gotta hustle. "

" *Leonardo?* " April mumbled under her breath, Kanae was the only one who caught what she said.

The said turtle turned to them, giving off the same intimidating aura like Raph's, but his wasn't that much hostile. He leaned down, pointing the hilt of his katana to them girls.

" Do not say a word about this to anyone. If you do, we will find you..." Leo warned, " April O'Neil...Kanae..." His eyes traveled to the black-haired girl, and she noticed a flick of curiosity in them towards her.

He turned back to the others. " We're on the move, Raphael. "

" *Raphael?* " Again, April muttered. Kanae raised an eyebrow at this, wondering what her mind was thinking about now.

" *Yeahh*, we'll find you, O'Neil, Kanae... " Mikey began to walk away, but then paused and stuttered out, " I am sorry, that came across super creepy -- but we'll find you though. "

Kanae watched the four mutant turtles jumped across another building, leaving them in dust. She noticed April trying to take another picture so she placed her hand on hers and lowered the camera.

" Please don't. They don't want you to take a picture so you should respect that. " A hint of scolding in the voice tone of the usually soft-spoken girl clearly caught the woman off guard.

Struggling slightly, followed with a defeated sigh, April put back the phone in her pocket.

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" *Pay attention, Kanae.* "

Kenji swung his wooden sword down in a flash, but the girl managed to block his attack. The man squinted his eyes at his niece as he leaned backwards, dropping his arms to his side.

" You've been in and out of your focus lately." He pointed out.

" I am sorry, oji-san, I just have a lot in my mind nowadays." Kanae chuckled, trying to brush off the topic, but Kenji didn't seemed to have the same intention.

" The Foot soldier attack in the subway -- God knows how fast my heart was racing while I tried to wait for you to come home. Penelope even dropped by in tears! We were so worried for you! " He expressed. " I am so glad nothing serious happens...but you've been acting strange after that incident. "

" Strange? I am still the same niece you know, oji-san." Kanae hummed, moving to the training bench to get her water bottle.

" What I meant is, Kanae, that -- I have some suspicious..." Kenji sighed." Please don't play the heroine. "

This earned him a confused look from her. " Pardon? "

" I am not saying you've been causing troubles since you were a kid, but you're like the magnet that attracts trouble unintentionally. You care too much about the others that sometimes I notice you lack on caring about yourself -- it worries me. "

" Nee-san! You need to take care of yourself too! "

Kenji's worries reminded the reincarnated Hashira of her little sister. Shinobu had said the same thing too, whenever Kanae would ignore any minor injuries she had to focus on the patients in the Butterfly estate. Playing the heroine part -- she understood what her uncle was saying. Countless of times Kanae saved people from thieves and perverts, a sense of responsibility throbbed inside her.

What responsibility? She wasn't a slayer anymore, no need to keep thinking of people's safety all the time -- yet the weight of it still lingered. Kanae couldn't concentrate on trying to live a normal life, one that she remembered having with her little sister and parents in her first life. She tried, but she could never turn a blind eye towards those in need.

She always wanted to help.

The Foot Clan reminded the reincarnated Hashira of the time when demons still existed.

" I won't do anything reckless. " She promised.

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The sun was already setting, the streetlight buzzing to life, and Kanae was on her way home from Penelope's, both of them had been busying themselves for the upcoming pop quiz the math teacher hinted to happen next week. The almost empty street in the area she was walking certainly gave a creepy vibe, but when you were a reincarnated slayer, you'd find such things weren't so scary at all.

Kenji was still worried if she encountered any Foot soldiers, but Kanae managed to ease his worry a bit by admitting that ever since her second meeting with the Foot, she had carried around a tessens (war fan) along with a pepper spray. She actually always had carried something to defend herself; she started with pepper spray that led to carrying a small knife. But one day she accidentally dropped the knife in front of her biology teacher, a situation where she was relieved to get away with only a warning after some explanation she had to make up.

The silence was broken by the sound of something crashing in the front alley, making her jump in surprise. Kanae raised an eyebrow and carefully tiptoed towards the alley, her hand reaching out for her tessens. Of all the things listed in her mind at the moment, she didn't expect one of the mutant turtles to be the one that crashed in the narrow passageway.

" Michaelangelo? " She recognized the orange mask around his face. He was laying on his stomach on top of a large four wheel rubber bin, and at the sound of her voice, he turned his body around, but then smacked right into the ground.

" Ow! Ouh -- ugh -- my arm -- "

The pained cries he hissed out triggered Kanae's healer mode. She hurried to him in a flash, and scanned his condition; there were a few visible bruises on his skin, but the most alarming

one was the cut on his right arm, blood gushing out. He was breathing rather rapidly and his scaly green skin looked sickly paler.

" Mikey, hey, can you hear me? Focus on my voice. "

" Woah, hey, it's you -- Kanae. Didn't see you there -- heh, everything's okay, I just need to go back to the lair so Donnie can fix this. He's the brain, you know? He can patch this up like magic. Like a wizard. So, anyway, I need to contact my brothers, I have my phone with me -- "

He was stuttering, not a good sign. Kanae snapped her fingers in front of his face, trying to get his attention. " Mikey, Michaelangelo, focus on my voice. Take a deep breath. I need to get you to my place. Can you help me with that? I can mend your cut. "

His eyes locked on her, there was a tremor on his jaw. He licked his lips, and gave a quick nod. Kanae helped him got onto his feet. It was a relief that the street was empty, and her house wasn't too far from their current location. Mikey could walked on his own, but he kept stumbling, so Kanae had to hold onto him.

She didn't bothered to unlock the door, seeing how the turtle was bleeding more purposely and kicked it opened straight up. By the time she managed to bring Mikey to the couch, Kenji was sprinting down the stairs from the second floor, the sound of the door being kicked opened alarmed him.

At the sight of Mikey, he yelled out, " *What the f--* "

" Oji-san! Get the first aid kit! I'll explain later! " Kanae went to close the front door and hurried back to the injured mutant.

The man stood on his spot for a good three seconds before dashing into action. Questions could wait, they needed to save this mutant turtle first.

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Thankfully the bleeding wasn't so severe that the cut needed stitching. Kanae managed to dress the wound with Kenji's help, and they both sighed in relief, a huge weight being lifted over. Mikey's breathing had become stable, he looked less in pain now. While Kenji went to get more blankets to keep the turtle warm, Kanae tried to have a small conversation with him.

" You did well, thank you for cooperating with us for the last an hour and a half. Do you have any access to call your brothers? " She asked, kneeling beside him. " I remember you saying you have your phone? "

He was currently sitting on the floor, laying his shell against the couch. Using his other hand, he managed to fish out his phone. It was the shape of a shell, the screen cracked, but it still functioning. He handed it to Kanae, sighing tiredly and leaning back slightly.

" Mind telling me what happened? " She asked.

He hummed, his eyelids half-closed. " I...acted recklessly. I didn't listened to Donnie's plan. I thought I could handle that one soldier on my own -- but he was the biggest in size among the others and very skillful with his sword...as you've noticed with what happened to my arm. "

Despite only had met him once, Kanae didn't feel right seeing him in such state. He strike her as a cheerful and out-going person, bubbly and talkative. His blue eyes caught her worry gaze and he put up a smile for the first time she found him.

" Chill, I am sure everything will be fine. " Mikey mumbled." I am more scared of what my brothers would think of this. "

Kanae stood up beside him, patting his shell. " I was once an older sibling; I assure you, Mikey, that your brothers must be worry sick of you. They must be searching for you. "

" *Searching...*" His half-closed eyelids snapped opened wide so suddenly. " Holy cheese! Kanae! Call my brothers immediately! Don put a tracker on everyone's phone! They're going to -- " he grunted, pain struck his injured arm.

Kanae reached out her hands but the hair on the back of her neck stood up. She didn't moved from her spot as a shuriken flew past her, stuck on the wall. Had she moved even slightly to the back, it would have pierced her skin.

" *Get away from my brother.* "

Raph stood in the entrance of the living room, Leo and Donnie just arrived behind him. They must have sneaked into from the backdoor, seeing that they came from the kitchen direction. The red-masked turtle pointed his sai weapon at her, already walking forward. Mikey immediately tried to stand up, but stumbled into the couch.

" Hey! Hey! Stop! Don't! She saved me!" Mikey put up his uninjured arm up. " She's a good person! "

" Raph! Calm down! " Leo grabbed his shoulder, pulling him back.

" *There's more of them?! "*

Kenji had appeared from the staircase, a bundle of blankets in his arms. Upon seeing the way Raph was pointing his weapon to Kanae, he dropped the blankets and ran to stand in between his niece and the mutants.

" Stay back! " He shouted.

" Oji-san, it's okay -- "

" No, nothing is okay! You -- you brought in whatever that thing is, and then more of them come and looking like they're just threatening you! " He kept his arm to block her going past him, not wanting his niece to get harmed by unknown creatures.

Leo stepped forward, " Sir, my brothers and I mean no harm, we just want our little brother back. "

" You're going to let her off the hook just like that, Leo? For all we know she might actually be the one who hurts him! " Raph still hadn't backed up.

Donnie had rushed over to the orange-masked turtle. " Mikey, are you okay? "

" I am not, if you're not listening to me! " Mikey raised his voice in frustration.

" You need to stop with the unnecessary accusing, Raph! " The leader in blue gritted his teeth.

" She's been spotted around the Foot Clan recently! One at the dock, second in the subway! I am telling you, she's really suspicious! "

" And I keep telling you, she saved me! "

" Mikey, don't move too much! "

" Hey, are you saying my niece works with the Foot Clan?! " Kenji shouted. " How did you even know about the dock one, have you been stalking her?! "

" Everyone be quiet!! "

You know what they say about the usually soft-spoken and gentle person? If you crossed the line, they would give you hell. Apparently the turtles and Kenji were at the edge of the ice, grazing the very forbidden line. They all fell silent, eyes turned towards the girl.

Kanae wasn't the type to get pissed off easily, no of course not, so the feeling she was having right now was an uncontrollable amount of annoyance and frustration. She held a deep scowl she wasn't familiar with, eyes glared sharp at everyone in the room. She looked at Kenji first.

" Oji-san, get the blankets back, Mikey still needs to be warm. "

Her head turned back to her brothers.

" Children, sit down, please. All will be explain. I am not taking a 'no' this time. "

Chapter 5: The Lair

Cutting the long story short; the mutant brothers had went on a patrol and split up into two groups; Leo with Raph, and Donnie with Mikey. Later on, Donnie and Mikey found a robbery activity happening, but at one point Mikey had been separated from Donnie while fighting one of the culprit. Cue to him being injured and Kanae finally finding him. The other brothers had been searching for him and using the tracker Donnie had placed in the T-phone, they managed to locate him. The dock story in their point of view was that they went to stop whatever the Foot soldiers were doing and then noticed Kanae and April dashing out from the area, the black-haired girl was seen with a sword while the brunette woman could be noticed being soaked in water. Kanae had explained to Kenji on how they met too, to avoid any more confusion.

" But why are you so suspicious of Kanae? " Kenji frowned at the red-masked turtle. " Working with the Foot? Seriously? She just turned 18! " Kanae placed a hand on his shoulders, pushing him back to sit on the couch.

" You're protective over your brothers, I understand. But your constant empty accuses is insulting already. Unless you have any certain proof that I am the bad person, then keep in those spiteful words. Reckless anger leads you nowhere. " She scolded.

" See, I told you. " Mikey said from his seat, wrapped in bundle of blankets.

Kanae shook her head. " You didn't even trying to listen to Mikey. Least hearing him out. Does his opinion not matter? " She went to him, gently placed a hand on his shoulder. " I've patched him up to the best that I could. He told me that Donnie is the one who usually tend to this stuff, so I'll have you take a better look. "

The purple-masked turtle nodded. " I'll see to it later. The dressing wound looks clean so I think you've done well..." he pressed his lips, turning his gaze down. "...thank you -- and we're sorry."

" We're sorry for breaking in and misunderstood your attention. " Leo apologized, his eyes glanced a bit towards his hot-headed brother who was the only one wasn't sitting, instead leaning on the wall with his arms crossed over his plastron. " Thank you for helping our brother as well. "

Raph caught his brother's gaze and shifted uncomfortably on his spot. His eyes flickered to Kanae but he made no attempt in saying sorry like his brothers did. Kenji looked like he might went on another snap towards the big guy, but Kanae pressed the hand she had on his shoulder, silently telling him to stay put. A forced apologize wouldn't do any good for both parties.

" Before you guys go back to your place, why don't you have some warm drinks? " She started to move to the kitchen, Kenji sprinted up from his seat to follow her. " Is tea okay? "

" We'll have whatever you offer. " The leader in blue nodded.

Kenji was silent as he helped Kanae with brewing the tea. The living room now filled with hushed voices of the turtles, maybe the brothers were checking on Mikey. The black-haired girl was putting sugar in the cups when her uncle leaned on the counter, a heavy sigh escaped his mouth.

" I really shouldn't have called you magnet that attracts trouble. "

This earned a chuckle from Kanae. " I guess I can't really escape the life of unordinary. Even in the second one. "

Once the turtles had their drinks (in awkward silence between both parties), they headed right out. Mikey seemed to regain back his usual bright personality, already making jokes with Donnie, who was carrying him and snorted at his jokes. Raph was avoiding eye contact with either of the humans as he let Donnie and Mikey walked out first through the backdoor, him quickly tagging behind them. Leo was the last behind, he spun around to face Kanae in the doorway.

" I am sorry for the troubles my brothers gave you -- especially Raphael. I'll have a talk with him later. "

Kanae waved her hand in the air. " Don't be. I am glad to help. This is just my assumption, but you guys must have hidden away in your place for a long time before finally going out in public, right? " When the turtle nodded, she continued. " I get that social interaction with humans is still unfamiliar to you. Not to mention that you guys are doing the heroic stuff in the city -- you've seen the bad side of humans, so it's understandable if you guys are very cautious with us. Go easy with your grumpy brother, try to understand his intention. "

For the first time they met, Leonardo smiled. " You're quite an odd, girl, Kanae -- in a good way. "

She laughed. " I'll take that as a compliment. Be careful on your way home. "

He gave her a last nod before leaping onto the rooftop, disappearing into the night.

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Two days later, April phone called Kanae.

With a shaky breath, the first thing she said when Kanae answered the call was, " *Remember the project our fathers used to work on?* "

Kanae halted in the process of writing her Chemistry notes, she placed down the pen and turned her attention fully to the phone on her ear. " I am not much involved in it like you were, but I do know it was named the ' Renaissance Project ' I think. "

" *Okay, so, the project is about making new development on medical department and stuff like that, and the subjects used for the project were a rat and 4 small turtles. Ring any bell yet?* "

" Renaissance...turtles..." Her eyes widened. " Oh my God -- April, the mutant turtles -- "

" I know right! Whatever experiment our fathers did on them must be the reason they were mutated! I didn't know what to else to do so I went to Sacks to talk about it -- "

" You told him about the turtles? " Kanae gasped in surprise.

" Because he was involved in the project too, remember? I -- "

April stopped talking, a muffle voice was in the background on her side. Kanae heard the woman moving and keyboards typing before her friend ended the call with a quick goodbye and the line went beep.

Kanae stared at her phone in distraught. Even though Sacks participated in the project, was it a wise decision to tell him about what happened to the turtles? She couldn't shook a horrible gut feeling she had. April was acting weird too just now. Kanae drummed her fingers on her desk, debating whether or not to go check up on April when she heard tapping on the window of her bedroom.

Two of the mutant brothers smiled at her through the window: Mikey waving his hand while Leo signaled for her to open the window. Kanae rushed over to open it.

" What are you doing here? " She asked in a low voice, hugging herself. She felt quite fortune that she hadn't changed into her pyjamas, still wearing her blouse and slack pant.

" Pardon our late interruption, but our father requested for your presence. " Leo said.

" Your father? Why? "

" All will be explain, my fair maiden! But first -- " Mikey pulled out a bag sack. " -- we need you to put this on. Don't wanna risk exposing our place's location. "

Kanae eyed the bag and looked at the brothers with a doubtful expression.

Leo tried to explain. " I know it doesn't seem so right, but it's for precaution. I'll carry you to our home, I'll make sure not to drop you. "

" Why can't I carry her? " The little brother protested.

" Because you will likely to drop her since you're still recovering. "

The girl sighed. " Oji-san is still out with his friends, so I need to write him a note first. I hope you have a good explanation on why are you doing this. "

In less than a minute, with a bag draped over her head, Kanae was in Leo's arms as he carried her away from her house, Mikey making sure he was right beside by throwing in light jokes and remarks. The night air was cold against her exposed skin, but the warmth that was vibrating from Leo made up for it. Kanae noticed his muscles arm were a bit tense, and he was very careful on where he put his hands on.

" I hope I am not too heavy. " She teased.

She felt his muscles relaxed slightly, and a small vibration from his chest as he chuckled. " You're as light as feathers. "

The sudden change of airways informed Kanae that they were now plotting down from the rooftop. She scrunched her nose at the sudden smell of something like rotten egg; her hands shot to cover her nose and mouth under the bag. It smelled like hydrogen sulfide with a hint of ammonia, combined with a few other types of chemicals she remembered having in the Butterfly estate mainly found in Shinobu's laboratory. She gave a few more sniffs before coming into a conclusion.

" Are we in the sewer? "

" No!" Mikey was quick to answer. " I mean, yes, but actually -- urgh, yes...you're in the sewer. But home sweet home! "

Leo placed her carefully on the ground and helped with pulling off the rag. Her pink eyes squinted slightly as they adjusted to the light. After her eyesight was clear, Kanae took in the design on the turtles' home; she seemed to be in the living room, beside her was a sofa and a table that amazingly made by pizza boxes as well as a yellow bean chair; the light came from the dozens hanging light bulbs of different colours; far to her right was a spot with lots of computers lined up and a table occupied with unfinished gadgets; to her left, was what looked like a kitchen with the counter and the row of cabinets exposing the spices they stored in. The warm temperature was unexpected from an underground and cool place, so they must have built their own heater to keep the lair warm. She turned around in a circle, eyes sparkled and mouth opened in awe.

" My, I never thought the day I think a sewer being a good place to live in would come. " She sighed in contentment. " It feels warm and welcoming. "

When she looked back at Leo and Mikey, their blue eyes had lit up and they were positively beaming in pride and joy. Obviously they didn't have much guests to come over, so when they received a compliment on their home, they couldn't help but to feel proud of it. Since the decorations and everything else were built and placed from scratch with their own hands. Sliding out from another entrance, were Raph and Donnie, who had another person covered in bag sack.

" Oh, yer' arrived already. "

" Hello, Donnie and Raph. " Kanae greeted with a friendly smile, in which he stared at her for a few seconds before turned away awkwardly. She looked at the person Donnie carefully set on the ground, and instantly recognized the strands of the brunet hair.

" Are we in the sewer? " April sniffed as her head came into view.

Mikey threw opened his arms. " Welcome to *mi casa*! It's French for front door! "

Kanae bit her lips. " It's really...not. " She turned to April. " I guess this is why you cut off the call in a rush. "

" Wow, guys, really? You kidnapped her too? " The brunette placed her hands on her hips.

" Kidnap is such a strong word. " Donnie bobbed his head to the sides, fidgeting with his fingers.

" You *did* put bag sack over our heads. "

" Touché. "

New footsteps sounds echoed in the air, and the girls turned around to see a giant mutant rat, holding a cane with one hand while the other stroking his long beard. Kanae took in the appearance of the rat, feeling a sense of familiarity, but April had already figured it out.

" *Splinter?* "

" April, Kanae. " The rat sighed wistfully. " It's been a long time. " He was the rat that April took care of years ago, Kanae managed to recall.

" Wait, dad, you knew them? Is that why you told us to fetch them? " Leo spoke out the question his brothers were thinking at the same time.

" Come, we all need to talk. It is time you finally meet the one who saved us all -- the hogosha. "

|| 15 years ago ||

A fire tragedy strikes in one of the floor in the Sacks Industry building; it all happened so fast, so unexpected. The flame that started in a laboratory was quick to spread all over the floor.

Splinter, still in his original animal form, squeaked in panic as he scattered around the lab floor, searching for the small turtles. Young April swooped in quick, snatching him in her hands before quickly ran around the lab in search for the turtles. She managed to find all four, and with her pets in her arms, she dashed out of the place, coughing because of the smoke. Lady luck seemed to smile down at her when she managed to leave the building just in time when the fire bursting out through the window. In the midst of people crowding in front of the building and firefighters trying to put out the flames, April hurried to a nearby sewer gate she could located.

She placed them tenderly on the ground, smiled at them before turning around and ran back to the crowd. She couldn't see it then, but Splinter had bowed down to her, thanking her for her brave action, before he slipped into the sewer with the turtles.

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" I was just a little girl back there..." April mumbled, looking down at her lap.

The old rat chuckled. " A brave and courageous kid, if I may add. It was all because of you, that we are now still breathing, still alive. You gave us freedom. "

" Wait a minute, dad, April is the *hogosha* you've been telling us about all those years? " Leo stepped in, gesturing to the sitting brunette on the ground. " The great, guardian spirit that rescued us from the fire? "

When Splinter nodded in confirmation, Leo bowed in front of April, his brothers followed suit to express their gratitude.

" My girlfriend is totally the *hogosha*." Mikey giggled quietly, earning a nudge from Leo.

" Of course, it was also thanks to your father that we're in good condition, Kanae. " Splinter turned his attention to the black-haired girl. " There were times where Sacks requested to use us as weapons but your father managed to delay his request to find a way of not doing so. Otherwise, our fate would've ended...in a much more savage way. "

" Sacks? What about him? " Kanae asked.

Splinter began to frown. " You may not know this before, but that man isn't someone you think you knew. He's not a good person. His main purpose of the project you and O'Neil were working on was only to gain fortune for himself. Your father discovered the truth first before telling it to O'Neil, who then immediately set the lab on fire, destroying Sack's works. It unfortunately had taken the lives of the two good men...but I must warn you both, to not be near that man ever again, for he works with the devil himself -- the Shredder. "

He sighed heavily. " When my sons were still young, they desired to go above the surface, curious with the upper world. But they'd be ridiculed and I know they needed to be strong physically and mentally. It was then I found a way -- hidden among the fallen objects in the sewerage, I pulled out the book of ninjutsu. In the pages held the techniques and methods of ninjutsu art, in which I trained myself on before passing it to my sons. "

" You learned all of these...from a book only? " Kanae tilted her head. " No other guidance or exemplary to take note from? "

Splinter gazed at her with amusing eyes, a small smile on his lips. " The mutagen in our blood has developed our intelligence and strength beyond the norm of the humans'. I do acknowledge that we need more than a book to learn more, but that was all I had in hands at that time. You seem to be knowledgeable in this area. "

" My uncle has a dojo where he teaches material arts. I learnt a bit from him."

April rolled her eyes, a smirk on her face. " A bit, she said. She took down a few Foot soldiers that tried to attack us once. "

" The ones at the dock? " The turtle brothers stared at the black-haired girl with wide eyes.

" You've grown into a fine warrior, it seems...the last time I saw you, you were just as small as the turtles." Splinter hummed, before turning back his expression into a serious one. " April, Kanae; the reason I asked my sons to bring you here, is to find out who has you told of our existence. "

" Er -- my uncle Kenji, knows about you guys. It was due to circumstances that I had to reveal your secret. "

" Michaelangelo had informed me of that, I thanked you for helping him. April? "

The brunette began to look troubled. " I -- I told Eric Sacks...mainly because he used to work with my father..."

" Sacks...just as I feared. " The mutant rat shook his head, getting to his feet. " You did not know this before, April, so it is not your fault that you decided to trust that man. Sacks was raised by Shredder in Japan, and he will do anything for his master whom he regarded as his father. "

" Wait, wait...Sacks and Shredder? So why aren't we out there hunting them down? " Raph grumbled.

" Because, Raphael, the Shredder is a skilled warrior whose cruelty is ever-reaching -- and you are just teenagers. "

There was a tone of annoyance in Raph's grunt, clearly not liking much about the reason his father forbid them to seek their enemy at the moment.

" The mutagen in your blood is a great value to them and now that Sacks has a confirmation that you are alive, I fear that they will bring the fight to us. "

Kanae noticed the change of expression on April; the brunette shut her eyes and threw back her head slightly, as if she just remembered something embarrassing. The woman then reached into her jacket and pulled out a business card. The logo on the card was familiar to Kanae, and it only took her a few seconds to connect why April looked like she had made a fool of herself -- in which she actually did.

" Oh no..." Kanae pressed a hand onto her mouth, seeing the small mechanism stuck on the back of the card.

It was a tracking device.

Chapter 6: Ambush

The alarm went off immediately.

" Perimeter infringe. Breached! We have incoming! " Donatello's shout snapped everyone back out of shock before everyone rushed to their stations, preparing for whatever was coming.

A string words of curses flew out of April's mouth as she stood up with Kanae, both were lost a bit on what to do. The reincarnated Hashira noticed a spot where there were a few bunch of weapons stacked on the wall and desk. She pulled her friend with her, reaching for the katana on the wall.

" Have something to defend yourself with. " She instructed, sheathing out the sword to have a look on its condition. April looked at the different types of weapons laid in front, but was too slow to pick one when Donnie cried out to the others.

" Oh no, no, we got two breaches! The fan room, the weapon wall -- " He spotted the girls on the place he just mentioned and waved his arm back. " April, Kanae, get away from the weapon wall! "

Leo was quick rolling out his duty as the leader. " Mikey, flank right! Donnie, on me! We gotta go! Go, go! "

His brothers followed his order without any questions, immediately springing into action. Splinter ushered the girls to be with one of the brothers for protection. His ears flicked and he turned to the weapon wall, pressing them on the surface. The weak beeping sounds coming from the other side caused his beady black eyes to widen.

" No! Get back! "

In a flash, the walls exploded -- coming from every directions. Leo's voice could be heard yelling out for Donnie, Mikey was last seen stumbling behind a stone pillar, and April and Kanae dived to the ground behind the kitchen's counter. The light had went off, smoke and dust covering their eyesight. The ground could be felt vibrated slightly as dozens of armed Foot soldiers rushed in, gunpoint searching for the mutants. Kanae looked over her shoulders to April, checking on her. The woman nodded, silently confirming that she was unharmed.

" Engage! " Splinter's voice rang through the air, the first to get back to his feet and charging towards the enemy.

" There they are! "

" Neutralize them! "

Donnie gasped. " They got tranq darts! "

Leo heaved himself off the floor. " Well don't let them hit your skin. " Him and Donnie pulled out their weapons and whipped around, just in time as the darts hit their shells.

The fight had begun; smacking and blade clacking could be heard, as well as failed aims of shooting tranquilizer darts. Two of the soldiers noticed April's upper head when she looked over the counter, and headed towards the girls' hiding spot. Kanae pushed April down as she leaped across the counter, landing on one of the soldier on the chest, knocking him down. She swung her sword and knocked the gun off the second soldier's hand, before hitting his face with the hilt of the sword. She smacked her foot on the first soldier's chest again, cracking his ribs.

" Slay, queen! " Mikey cheered, knocking out three more soldiers with his spinning nunchucks.

This sense of familiarity, the rush of adrenaline, keeping her breathing pattern in check -- it didn't feel like this when she saved April from the Foot soldiers at the dock, nor in times when she helped others from thieves -- no, this was it, the same feeling, the chills running on her skin, the way every of her sense was on high alert...

The Flower Hashira has returned into action once again.

" Total Concentration Breathing..." Kanae inhaled a large amount of oxygen, getting into a stance as more soldiers started to advance towards her; she hoped the training she went through in this second life gave her the same result of her first.

It started of small and unnoticeable, as she blocked and dodged the attacks, but then her speed increased, her body began to feel lighter, and dozens of soldiers plopped down to the ground, defeated by her. With the temporary time of not busy fighting, she turned to Mikey, who looked at her in awestruck.

" Keep an eye on April, make sure she's safe. I'll go help your brothers. " Her eyes flickered towards the bandaged wound on his left arm. He was still recovering from the last attack and she wanted to minimized any injuries further, so guarding April seemed less exposed rather than facing the soldiers head on.

" Be careful! " April cried out from her hidden spot, Mikey giving her a nod and thumbs up as he stationed himself there.

In front of Donnie's computers spot, Kanae could see him, Leo and Raph trying to fight off the charging soldiers, occasionally turning to avoid the darts from hitting their skin.

" We got a breach in the fan room! " The purple-masked turtle informed, tasing a soldier with electricity from the his tech bo staff.

" Raph! Get to the fan room! " Leo slammed away a soldier.

" Why are you always telling me what to do! " Raph snarled, punching a soldier charging behind Leo.

" Just get to the fan room! " The blue-masked turtle barked out to his brother, both late to notice the two other soldiers pulling the trigger and aimed towards them.

Kanae jumped in between, deflecting the darts with her sword . She kicked away the gun from one's grip and hit his temple with the hilt of her sword, turning to face the second one, bending her body to avoid his swipe, and slammed her palm upwards his chin, ripping away the gun in his hand and used it to smack his head.

She tossed the gun to the ground and looked back at the turtles. " I'll be Raph's backup. " Seeing that they were still staring at her in bewilderment, she gave them a lopsided smile. " Boys? "

" Huh? Oh yeah, you heard her Raph. " Leo nudged his brother, turning back to give a punch on a soldier who tried to ambush Donnie from the side.

The red-masked turtle gave her a curt nod before leading the way, Kanae tailing behind. More Foot soldiers swarming in from the fan room, filling in the spots of their fallen ones.

" Cover me! I need to block the entrance! "

Kanae nodded, sprinting forward to kick away a soldier blocking the turtle's path. She went to block shooting darts behind Raph, letting him pushing the big exhaust fan towards the entrance. He let out a roar, using an incredible strength to push the block, trapping any stuck soldiers and blocking more of them from the other side. He went back to help Kanae fighting the rest of the soldiers, charging in and slamming a few to the wall with his body.

The slam caused the wall to crack unexpectedly, the area shook and the ceilings began to collapse. Kanae felt a big amount of air being pushed through of her lung when Raph tackled her to the ground, shielding her from the concrete slabs. Soldiers screaming and yelling, Kanae remembered putting her arms over head and Raph's pulling her into his chest before darkness took over.

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There was a ringing sound in her ears as she regained back her conscious. Kanae blinked out the dust from her eyes, a sudden violent cough erupted from her chest. She felt something pressing against her, keeping her pinned to the ground. When a second cough came, the pressure shifted and she realized it was Raph's body weighting on her, fortunately not enough to crush her bones.

" Raph, Raphael, " she mumbled his name, her hand finding his face, " are you okay? "

" Shouldn't I -- ugh -- be the one to ask that? I am literally laying on top of you. " He managed to heave himself off the ground slightly, but stopped moving when a piece of concrete the size of a human's head rolled off him, missing Kanae's head by inches. The dust got into her eyes again though.

Seeing that if he moved more, there would be possibility of her getting hurt, he stayed still. Kanae noticed the problem and tried to scoot closer under his body. Her feet and legs felt

fine, she could wiggle them a bit, but her left wrist seemed to have been dislocated. The adrenaline would wear off and she would feel the pain doubled later, but now she must focus on how to get both of them out of the rumbles.

" I got an idea, but you need to move fast. " Raph breathed heavily. " Can you do that? "

" Tell me where I need to move. "

" I am going to push the boulders off and create an opening for you to crawl out first. You should be able to move to the front. On the count of three -- "

Kanae flipped around her body as the counting began. When he got to one, he yelled and shoved the stone slabs, opening a hole that direct to the outside. Ignoring the pain in her wrist, Kanae crawled out and gave a quick push from her feet to boost her movement out of the rumble quickly. The sudden light blinded her for a few seconds, but she finally managed to free herself. As she breathed in relief, she heard loud rumbling behind, indicating that Raph had free himself as well.

He helped her get on her feet, at the same time handing her the sword she used before. Kanae smiled at him, giving his hand a gentle squeeze.

" Thank you, Raph. "

He hummed. " Can't do it without you too. "

It was then both of them realized how silence the lair was, except for the sound of stones being moved and the grunt Kanae knew belonged to April. They both shared a panic look before sprinting to the dojo area, where there laid the scene of April trying to free an injured Splinter from under the slabs of concretes. Raph wasted not time and rushed forward, effortlessly took off the heavy burdens and carefully took his father in his arms, heading to the needle room.

" Kanae! Raph! " April looked like she might cry in relief, as she grabbed her friend. " Are you okay? Shredder -- he came, he hurt Splinter and then he took away the others! "

Kanae pressed her lips, trying to keep herself calm. Let's see the situation here; Splinter got hurt, Raph was currently placing him on a medical table, April had bits of scratches and dirt but otherwise she seemed unharmed, and the other turtles had been taken away by Shredder to God knows where. For now, she needed to check on Splinter's injuries first before moving on to save the others.

She flexed her left wrist slowly, stopping at one point when the pain struck in more. Kanae closed her eyes and sighed, opening them back again.

" Can you find me ice packs? " She asked at April, who nodded and hurried into the remaining of the kitchen, the fridge still looking in good condition.

Moving to where the remaining mutants were, she watched Raph stumbling around the cabinets and shelves before pulling out a first aid kit. She moved closer to Splinter and was

quite relief to see he was still conscious.

" Raphael? " The rat managed a whisper, his eyes locking on his son.

" I am here." Raph whispered, letting Splinter's fingers wrapped around his wrist slowly.

" Splinter, I need to check for your injuries -- "

Her words were cut off by his sharp objection. " No -- I'll be fine, you and Raphael need to find the others -- "

" Master Splinter, please, we need to check on you too. " There was an unfamiliar soft tone in the usually grumpy turtle's voice, looking at his father with pleading eyes.

The mutant rat squinted his eyes close, not saying anything else and Kanae took that as a permission to have him check on. She wasn't that much of an expert in veterinary area, but she wouldn't let that stop her from trying to patch up any wounds. There were a few small cuts that could easily be mend, but when she moved to press the chest area with her fingers gently, the rat let out a pained gasp.

Kanae instructed for Raph to help undressing the upper half of Splinter's robe so she could take a better look on the chest. He obeyed with any words, as if he knew that she was the only one in the room with enough knowledge and experience on handling this kind of thing. The patch of fur made it difficult for Kanae to look at the injury. Time passed by unnoticed by them, Kanae dressing up the wounds, Raph by her side to help her with whatever she needed. April had came to them with a bucket of ice packs, in which then used to put on large bruises seen on Splinter.

Finally satisfied with whatever she could pulled off, Kanae nodded at the turtle and his shoulders relaxed slightly, a relief sigh could be heard escaped from his lips. Splinter was awake the whole time, helping the procedure with pointing out where it hurts and such. She gave him a pain killer she found in the kit, so he should be resting comfortably now. April gently pulled her backwards, handing her an ice pack they hadn't used yet.

" Don't ignore your own injury. " She patted Kanae's shoulder softly. " I am going to call a colleague of mine to get us a ride -- looks like the other turtles have their own tracker to notify their location to us. "

" Donatello. Mikey said they have trackers in their phones. "

Kanae took a seat on a stool nearby as April walked away to make a call. She pressed the pack on her wrist, hissing at the pain. Raph returned back to her after he and Splinter had a quiet conversation with each other, which left him looking determine and somehow energetic. He faltered slightly at the sight of Kanae mending her own injury.

" You -- I didn't even noticed. " His non-existent eyebrows furrowed.

" It's a little dislocated, nothing too big. I've popped it back to its joint. " Kanae tried to assure him. " April is finding us a ride with her colleague. Donnie puts trackers on your phones

right? We can pinpoint wherever they are now and hurry over. Need to plan out the journey first. "

Raph stared at her for a few seconds and then gave a curt nod. He sat on a stone slab beside Kanae, now gazing at his hands. An awkward silence followed.

"...How did you do it? "

" Pardon? "

He looked at her and she stared into his eyes, finding fear flickered in them.

" You're staying so calm, so level-headed and -- and -- I can't even think straight right now. My dad is hurt, my brothers are kidnapped, all because I wasn't strong enough! " He slapped away a stone in a moment of anger.

His rough attitude, uncontrollable anger, reckless and rebellious; he reminded her of someone.

" Raph, " she reached out, placing a hand on his shoulder, " this happened not because you're not strong enough. Shredder has ambushed us, taking us in surprise. We weren't prepared. You are already strong enough to get us free from the rumble, to keep yourself calm while helping me patch up Splinter...all I ask you now is not to focus on what you could've done -- but to focus on what you need to do now. "

The way he tried to not break to down, his harsh treatment to avoid being seen as weak and him being protective...yes, Raphael reminded her exactly of Shinazugawa Sanemi. Behind their hot-tempered attitude hide the soft and caring side of theirs, only wanting the best for their loved ones.

" I am only able to keep myself calm right now because I've experienced stuff like this in the past. " She continued. " I learnt that rushing things won't exactly lead to a great outcome."

Raph huffed." Some hell you've been through before if you don't think much of meeting giant mutants and fighting terrorist..."

" Tell you what; after we get everyone to safety and back home, I'll tell you a very interesting story about me. "

She shook his shoulder playfully, a friendly smile on her face. It honestly amazed the mutant turtle on how she didn't looked fazed nor scared, how she was so optimistic that everything would be okay, how she and April were ready to risk their lives for creatures like them. To think he thought bad about her before...

" Kanae? "

" Hmm?"

"...Thank you. "

Chapter 7: Rescue Mission

Vern, the man who worked with April as the camera man, yeah, Kanae knew him. They had met once when she walked passed the crew filming a live after school hour. She didn't have much opinion on him, but she trusted April on calling him to give them a ride to the Sacks Estate, where the tracker pinpointed Leo, Donnie and Mikey's location. After making sure Splinter was still in a stable condition, Kanae, Raph and April set away on a rescue mission.

It was already morning by the time they went to the surface. April went forward first, greeting her colleague who had arrived just in time with a white van. Kanae helped Raph sneaked into the back, making sure no one glanced into the alley there were in before hopping in with the turtle. The brunette explained everything happened to Vern in one breath before urging him to start the engine and drive now.

Vern didn't took this matter seriously it seemed, as he got into the driving seat but not even turning the keys in. " O'Neil we're both consenting adults, we're both very good-looking. You're better, probably -- "

" *What's with his drawling?* " Raph gritted his teeth, speaking in a hush voice. " *Just move the damn van.* "

" We need to get to the Sacks Estate, come on, Vern! " April kept urging but he only rolled his eyes and continued talking.

Kanae patted the turtle's shell, her patience beginning to be tested with the way Vern making fun of April. " Snap him out, will you?"

Wasting no time, Raph poked his head out into the front seats, shouting. " Drive! "

A silence followed. Kanae stayed in her seat, hearing the man pointing out Raph being a talking turtle, and the mutant snapping back with calling him a human nerd before retreating back the to the backseat. It felt like a bliss to hear the engine roaring and the vehicle beginning to move.

" You scared him good. " She complimented.

Vern spluttered out, glancing at the rear mirror. " Is that Kanae? W-What is she...she knows too?"

" Eyes on the road, nerd. " Raph snapped, crossing his arms over his chest and looked back at Kanae. " How's yer wrist? "

" Good enough that I can still swing my sword without feeling too much pain. I am sure I can land a few strikes on Shredder if we meet him there. "

The red-masked turtle shook his head, leaning his shell against the van surface. Determination and anger burning in his eyes.

" No, you don't have to fight him. That bastard is all *mine*. "

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The 30 minutes journey to the Sacks Estate was both nerve-wrecking and unbelievably bored with Vern's constant blathered on random things about himself. Kanae tried to strike up a conversation with the topic of how they could access into the estate, in which Vern popped out a few ideas like going through the air vent or knocking the guards off -- which lead back to him spluttering out how he calculated the number of guards he could took down. April didn't listened to him in the first place and outward ignoring him, Kanae kept up her usual but now fixed smile as she forced herself to listen out of politeness, while Raph didn't bothered to hide his annoyance, visibly rolling his eyes and clicking his tongue loudly.

" There's the gate right there. " April spoke out for the first time in the journey and Kanae quietly sighed in relief.

" Ram the gate. " Raph ordered.

Kanae raised an eyebrow at him. " Park somewhere hidden, Vern, we need a plan first. "

" We don't have the place's map or route that we can take, there are guards everywhere. Just ram the gate, they must be expecting us anyway. " He argued back.

" Ram the gate? This is Channel 6's property. " Said Vern.

Clearly not taking any no for this, Raph repeated himself with a raised voice. " *Ram the gate!* "

With a slight jump, Vern smacked his foot onto the paddle and the van gained more speed, charging right onto the gate. The vehicle didn't stopped until they drove through the front yard and crashed stopped on the front door. Soldiers shouting and begining to shoot fires at them, Vern panicking as he tried to reverse the van while April ducked under her seat.

Raph surprised everyone by literally leaping out through the van, creating a large hole on it. He took care of the soldiers before turning back to his humans comrades.

" Follow me! "

Kanae hopped out of the van through the hole he made, blinking at the damage. " You have an amazing control of your strength. " She said, sheathing out her sword and ran forward with Raph, providing protection for the other two.

He threw a metallic table towards the soldiers once they managed to get inside the building. " Yeah, everything is a lot more fragile than you think. Humans are fragile too. "

The black-haired girl leaped into a counter and spun in the air, dodging the bullets before planting her foot onto each of their faces one by one, sending them to the ground.

" I hope I am not listed! " She kicked a soldier in the crotch.

" Nah, of course you're not. " Raph slammed his sai on a control panel on the wall, opening the slide door to another room.

Vern looked like he might get hysterical attack at any moment. " How are you guys conversing casually in the middle of this?! "

" Duck! " April shouted, slamming a metal tray towards a soldier behind her cameraman, knocking him out.

Stepping into the next room, Kanae halted in her steps for a second at the sight laid in front of her. The three turtle brothers were each locked in a glass cage with tubes connected in them, red liquid being drawn out. All of them looked exhausted, barely even lifting their heads. The way they seemed to be breathing didn't feel right too.

" Leo! " The red-masked called for his older brother, who could only glanced at him.

Kanae went to the computer monitors, checking whatever they were doing to them while Raph tried to break the glass. It rattled with the harsh contact, but not even a crack was made.

" 'Bout time..." Mikey whispered, looking more paler than Leo and Donnie.

Kanae tried to control the panic in her as she remembered his injury, and how he would be likely the first to be drained out of blood. Not to mention he was the smallest in size of his brothers, so he was the one at the biggest risk first.

" Raphael, glad you could join us. "

A new, unfamiliar person stepped forward, snapping Kanae and Raph's attention to him. He was dressed in a samurai-style battle armour, the gauntlets on his arms heavily armed with sharp blades.

" The fourth cage, " Shredder got into a fighting stance, curling his hands into fists and extra blades slide out of his gauntlets, " is for *you!* "

Vern and April had just entered the room when Raph charged forward to the enemy with a roar. To everyone's shock, Shredder merely caught the mutant by his neck, dragging him and shoved him down to the bottom floor with unbelievable strength.

Kanae barely heard Mikey's comment of, " That's harsh, man. " before gaining back her sense when Shredder hopped down to continue the fight. She turned to Vern and April, who both looked shaken at the scene.

" April, Vern! Try figure out how to free the others! We'll hold him off! " She instructed, tightening her grip on the hilt of the sword as she marched to the edge.

Kanae watched Raph getting back to his feet, trying to land a hit on the armed man, but none were successful. Shredder slammed his arm on him, knocking him to the floor once again.

" The rat did not teach you well." He mocked, looking down at the shaking mutant. He caught the sight of Kanae and turned to her. " Oh? Do we have a third party that would like to

join in the fight ring? "

" Focus on me! " Raph growled, hurling towards Shredder but he was tripped and kicked away with ease.

Even not being able to go back up quickly, Raph's hands grabbed the samurai's ankle, preventing him from trying any attack on the girl. " *Kanae, go!* "

Shredder groaned in disgust, yanking his foot away and delivered a few harsh kicks on his face. He then stepped on the shell, pressing a huge pressure that made crack on it. Not being able to stand by and watch any longer, the former Hashira hoped her mutant colleague wouldn't mind if she lend a helping hand.

" Breath of Flower, First Form : Rhododendron Struck. "

Kanae thrust her sword forward as she charged at the enemy; Shredder stepped aside to dodge the blow, but her feet followed his movement, changing the pattern and struck a blow to his arm, ripping out some of the blades off the gauntlet. She kicked him away, creating a distance and stationed herself in front of the injured turtle.

Shredder let out a guffaw laugh, straightening his back and clapped his hands. " *Finally*, a decent warrior stepping in! Come at me with all that you have, little girl! "

Her face remained stoic, not once breaking her defense stance. " I usually wait for my enemy to charge first. "

A dark chuckle rumbled from the armed man as he complied her by dashing towards her first. The breathing style Kanae created herself is a form that focuses on agility combined with graceful attacks mimicking flowers and fruits. The breathing pattern enhances and utilizes one's vision, allowing them to keep a track on their opponents' movements. Every swings and strikes Shredder aimed at her were dodged or blocked, her speed matched his.

" You have a wonderful, coordinated fighting style, " he complimented, " what a pity for you to use it for the likes of these freaks. "

" I only see one freak here. He's wearing a ridiculous exaggerating samurai armour. " She blocked his swinging blade.

" Do not waste your gift, child. You will gain much more by joining the Foot Clan. "

" Only if you grow legs and walk away. "

" You're so full of sass. "

" Thanks! I am thinking of making it my personality just for you, sir."

Kanae was sure she got this attitude from constant hanging around Shinobu. She dodged another swing attack and swiped her foot on his ankle, getting him to his knees. Just as she raised her blade, something shifted out from his shoulder plate and shot out a gas onto her face. While she managed to tilt her head away, bits of the gas still managed to do something

to her eyes and nose, giving her a numb-like pain like she just ate a bag of ghost chilly peppers.

She gasped loudly, eyes began to water and stumbled backwards. Her arms immediately went to blocking stance as Shredder sent a powerful kick to her, sending her to smack on a pillar. Kanae groaned in pain as she slumped on the ground, trying to stable her breathing, wondering what kind of gas she was exposed at. Through her watery eyes, she saw the enemy walking away to the exit.

" You've done well, but I have an important business to attend. " Shredder said, stepping into another room and let the sliding door closed behind him.

The girl got into her feet back, charging towards the door, but it was already fully closed by the time she was near enough. Kanae shook her head, wiping her watery eyes and nose before turning back to the mutant turtle.

" Raph, are you okay? " She sniffed, starting to get annoyed with the dirty tactic Shredder used on her.

He heaved himself off the floor, grunting, " Ya, I think I am... he's such a coward. " He added, seeing the mess on her face.

Just then they heard glass breaking from the top floor, followed without shouting, and then rushing to them were Leo, Donnie and Mikey; all three miraculously pumping with full energy that they had difficulty to make a proper sentence as they circled around, helping their brother stood up.

" Oh my God, Raph, are you okay -- "

" We gotta go, Sacks tower -- "

" He's going to poison the city -- "

" Kanae, why are you crying -- "

The black-haired girl grinned in relief, reaching out to hold Donnie's arm, calming him. " I am glad all of you are all right. So they're going to poison the whole city? "

" Yes, they planned on using the mutagen in our blood as the antidote, that's why they took us before. " Leo spoke in one single breath. " April is already on her way out with another man. We gotta go, now! "

Raph handed out his brothers' weapons he carried all the way, nodding at them. " Let's go save this city. "

" Everybody calm down! *Look how calm I am!* " Mikey laughed, spreading his arms out as they all sprinted outside the building, ready for a new mission; save New York City.

Chapter 8: Snow Struggle

By the time they all got outside, already geared up, Shredder was seen in a helicopter above, making his way to the city. A few soldiers made approached towards them, none looked friendly with weapons in hands.

" Oh my God, they have guns! " Donnie shrieked, putting on his multi-frequency antenna.

Gunshot being fired at, the turtles stationed themselves to shield their human friends using their shells. The bullets bounced harmlessly on their shells not doing anything to them.

" We're bulletproof! " Raph snickered.

" Sweet! " Leo grinned.

Kanae stared at them with raised eyebrows. " Is this a new discovery? You meant to tell us that you took the risk to shield us? "

" Hey, you're risking your lives to save us; who says we can't do the same? " Donnie said.

Mikey winked. " We'll take bullets for you any day. "

" Can you drive a truck? " Vern nodded at Leo's question. " Okay then, get one and we'll hit off the road! Go, go! "

The turtles distracted the soldiers from their human friends, giving them the chance to slip into an unattended truck. Kanae opened the backdoor and hopped in the back while the adults went into the front seats. She heard Vern muttering on trying to turn on the engine by using the red blue wire method, leading to April revealing where the keys were. Giving a signal to the blue leader as the engine roaring to life, Kanae helped the turtles got inside.

" Where's Mikey? " Her eyebrows knitted in worry at the absent of the orange-masked turtle, but the crease on her face disappeared when Mikey's voice was heard on top of the truck, as well as his knockings on the roof to alert his whereabouts.

Raph pounded his fist on the truck's wall. " Drive! "

" I am on it! " The truck began to move in high speed, ramming the gate once again and they were all speeding out of the estate.

Kanae turned to Donnie, who was currently checking on Raph. " How is he? His shell cracked. "

" Nothing too serious, he'll live, unfortunately. "

" Very reassuring, Donnie. " The red-masked turtle went to flick his finger on his brother's snout, messing with his glasses. He turned his head to look at the black-haired girl. " What part of ' *Kanae, go!* ' that you didn't understand? "

" I took it as a green light to come for your aid. " She gave him cheeky smile.

" Finally getting a taste of your own medicine, Raphael? " Leo snickered, making a small and quick fist bump with her.

Rolling his eyes in annoyance, Raph pointed towards the opened door. " Target 12 o'clock! " Sure enough, about three vehicles of the enemy came into sight, speeding after them.

Mikey popped out his head from the top, looking at the rest in upside-down. " Where are we going, guys? "

" Donnie, what's the fastest way to Manhattan? "

" We just need to stay on this road! If we can get to the maintenance hatch at the bottom of the hill, there's a sewer line 2.4 miles from here! " A hologram image of a map sizzled out of the gadget on Donnie's tech wrist.

Leo nodded. " Mikey! Let them know up there! "

" I am on it! " His footsteps echoed on the roof, but then he came to a halt, a sigh of apprehension was heard. " Oh, no..."

In a blink, something was shot towards the truck's back tire, causing an explosion. The truck began to swirl off the road, screeching down the hill of snow. The tremendous shaking caused everyone inside to lost their balance; Kanae slipped and fell down, her body rolling to the exit. Leo outstretched his hand and caught her arm, pulling her back in. Objects in the back truck stumbled out as the vehicle dipped down into a new angle, where Leo was unfortunate enough to lose his footing and rolled out of the truck. Double unfortunate when he still had his grip around Kanae, so she was pulled with him. Donnie tried to grab them but he wasn't quick enough.

Leo wrapped his arms around Kanae as his shell hit a tree branch and then fell on top of a boulder. A sickly crack sound filled the air. She laid on her back beside him, gasping in pain, her right fingers went to wrap around her now broken left wrist. The blue-masked turtle mumbled a curse word, his hands protectively held her closer. He looked down to inspect her injured wrist.

" Leo, move, move! " Mikey shouted in alarm, the truck now sliding further down towards them. He instantly wrapped his arms around Kanae again and rolled out from under the truck before they could turn into splattered meat.

Kanae and Leo had just gotten back to their feet, staring in horror at the truck filled with their friends and brothers going straight down the hill, when the enemy's vehicle approaching close behind them. Leo got hit on the back and was thrown into the air, Kanae being in front of him met with the same fate. She felt him pulling her to lay on top of his plastron as they began to slide down through the snow, both merely missing the electrical hook the enemy just shot at them. With one hand supporting Kanae, the turtle pulled out a sword and tried to block any more attack, but then one hook got onto him, electrocuting him. He was fast enough to shove Kanae off him so she wouldn't get hurt as well.

Kanae managed to come to a balance and stable movement, sliding down closer to Leo, shakingly reached for another katana on his back. She sheathed it out and used a Total Concentrate Breathing so she had enough strength to cut off the cable. Once she was done, her balance lost control and she rapidly began to stumble quicker down, her cries in pain alerting the others. Not having a shell like the terrapin, she couldn't slide down as smoothly as he was. Leo seemed to try fighting from losing his conscious, reaching for Kanae but kept failing.

Between the blurry images of snow and vehicles, Kanae saw Donnie leaping out of the truck, his hand grabbing her arm and pulling her on top. There was a vehicle ramming towards them, Donnie using his shell to lay against the front of the vehicle.

" God, I've always wanted to try this. " He muttered, positioning his bo staff so that one end tipped under the vehicle's license plate while the other scratched on the ground where it then crossed path with a boulder; the vehicle went flying off immediately into the air, Donnie having a fit of giggles and snorts at his accomplishment made Kanae temporarily forgot about her injury.

The vehicle rolled to the back as Donnie hurried to help Leo. " I got you brother, one car down, two to go! "

The victory was cut short when another electrical hook managed to grab on hold to Donnie, this time sending volts through him and Kanae. The electrocute was enough to send Leo into a half conscious mode, let alone a human like Kanae getting the same amount of volt? Her eyes were already rolling to the back of her head. Donnie's voice shouting for Mikey was the last thing she heard.

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Kanae regained back her conscious, finding herself being carried in a bridal style by Donatello. She blinked up at him, not moving a muscle and making any sounds. Plus, everything felt numb. She prayed to God that the electrocution just now didn't do any damage to her system nerve because that would be a horrible nightmare she did not want to deal with, as a slayer or not.

It seems like they all managed to get into the maintenance hatch, seeing the sewer tunnels surrounding they were in now. Everyone had bits of snow on them, Kanae noticed April and Vern walking very close beside Mikey, their hands wrapped around themselves in trying to keep themselves warm. Oddly, Kanae didn't feel much cold you'd expect from being in a sewer underground of a cool environment. It was then she noticed how warm the terrapin's body was, like a warm toast.

" Huh? O-Oh! Kanae! " Donnie noticed her being awake when she shifted closer to his body. " Oh my God, guys, she's awake! "

There was slight change in the air, as if a tension was relieved. Kanae heard the others sighing in relief and asking her if she was all right or not. April rushed to her side, assuring her that everyone came out okay and they were heading to the city as they speak.

" I was afraid you'd go into cardiac arrest, but by miracle you weren't! " The purple-masked turtle pulled her in closer to keep her warm. " Your wrist is broken and you have a sprained ankle by the way -- not in a fit to fight, plus with you just being electrocuted..." His eyes darted away slightly, he pressed his lips. " If only I could avoid that hook. "

Kanae managed to raise her right arm, placing her palm on his shoulder. " Not...your fault..."

" We're dropping you off by the first alley we could get out to. " Leo slowed down his steps so he could spoke to her. " April had called your uncle -- he's going to get you to the hospital. "

Raph cut in before she could say any objections. " Yer' not tagging along with that condition. Seriously, rolled down a snow hill, dislocated wrist turned to broken one, sprained ankle, electrocuted and still breathing? Immortal or something? "

" Leave the saving to us, my flower. We'll kick Shredder's butt for you." Mikey puffed his chest out.

Kanae sighed tiredly, her eyelids dropping down again. As much as she wanted to help fighting Shredder, they were being reasonable. She couldn't fight with such state. Donnie's warm temperature slowly dragged her into sleep, this time she let herself drifted off comfortably.

" Be careful, everyone..." She mumbled loud enough before darkness took over once again.

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She woke up in the hospital this time. The smell of antiseptic and lemon filled her nostril, her eyes darted around and found her uncle making himself a coffee on a table. He noticed the small movement and gasped in surprise.

" Kanae, oh thank God." Kenji rushed to her, grabbing the rail of the bed. " You have no idea how scared I was when April called me. "

This was the second time she had seen him in this state; restless, shaking and pale. The first time was when Kanae helped someone who fell into the train rails, almost missing death by seconds when she was 15 years old. It only showed how really terrified he was at the thought of Kanae being injured or at the edge of death.

She swallowed her saliva, hand reaching out to grab Kenji's. " I am okay. I am okay. " It was understandable that her uncle was worried and panicking for her state. She literally went on a rescue mission to save mutant turtles and fought with Foot Clan soldiers.

He closed his eyes, pressing his lips. " I know, sweetie. But I can't lose you -- I can't lose you like I lose my sister. "

Kanae's eyes softened at the mention of her mother. " I am sorry...but I don't think I can continue living a life without danger...a habit from past life, maybe? " She lightheartedly chuckle, relief to see the small smile her uncle gave her.

A man in white lab coat, the doctor assigned perhaps, knocked on the door, asking to talk to Kenji. Her uncle nodded and looked back at her.

" I am going to let you rest more, but don't think we're over about this, young lady. There's a lot more to discuss...especially with your involvement with those new friends of yours." He gave her hand a gentle squeeze before exiting the ward with the doctor, closing the door behind.

Kanae took in a deep breath as she made herself comfortable in the bed. She glanced around the room, feeling nostalgic. There were times when she participated in community service activities in the hospital, so she was used to the surrounding -- it gave her the same feeling back in Butterfly estate. Sure, excluding every modern, high tech machine, but the estate had the same purpose as a hospital; to receive injured people and helped them heal. Though Kanae preferred more of the natural herb smell instead of the chemical medicine scent. She quite missed the scent of wisteria flower.

The door slide opened again, but coming in was a woman in white clothing, a nurse. She had a mask around her lower face part as she pushed in a trolley cart, a silver tray on top with different sizes of medicine bottles, as well as a pair syringe. A cloth draped over the cart, covering the lower section. Kanae raised an eyebrow at this, watching the nurse mumbling about giving her a shot on doctor's order.

While the nurse crouched down to grab something behind the cloth, Kanae tried to read the labels on the medicine bottles. Chill ran down her spine, realizing that none of the medicine on the tray involved in her kind of treatment. She stayed quiet and still, but her eyes darted around for anything she could used as a weapon. Her left arm was in a sling, her right ankle was wrapped in bandage, she was not in a good state to fight.

As the nurse stood up again, her eyes locked on Kanae's and the girl immediately felt a sense of familiarity in the dark black eyes.

Karai had a gas mask in her hand and was seconds away from putting it on Kanae when the girl threw off her blanket on her, blocking her eyesight. Kanae took a sharp breath as she forced herself out of the bed, colliding with the woman and both of them fell onto the floor. With the advantage of being on top, she made sure the blanket stayed covered on Karai as she used her other hand to rip out the gas mask from her clutch.

The mask had a tube connected to it, and when Kanae tugged hard, a canister rolled out from under the cart. She turned back to Karai, pressing her elbow on the neck and kept down then struggling woman.

" What are you trying to do to me? " Kanae gritted her teeth, pressing more pressure.

The dark haired woman gasped for air, shaking the blanket off her face part. She glared at Kanae, and struggled harder under the blanket. With a groan, Karai managed to throw Kanae off her, crashing her into the cart. The former Hashira grunted, shaking her head as she opened back her eyes just in time when Karai tried plugging the mask on her. Kanae managed to grab her wrist before the mask was on her face.

" Stay -- *still!* " Karai hissed, a second pause at the amount of strength Kanae possessed even in a bad state.

Ignoring the pain on her broken wrist, Kanae slide her left arm out of the sling, grabbing a syringe before stabbing the woman on the neck. Karai gasped in pain, jolting backward and plugged out the syringe. Kanae acted quick and used her good leg to kick the woman away from her, knocking her to the bed. The door slammed opened again and Kenji appeared with two policemen behind him.

" Kanae! " He rushed to his niece in a second, the policemen went to handle the woman.

Seeing that she was outnumbered, Karai leaped over the bed and jumped through the window, glasses shattered everywhere. While the policemen looked over the window and reporting that she had escaped, Kenji helped Kanae getting on the bed again.

" Some Foot soldiers sneaked in and tried to poison the patients with something, but the police managed to stop them. Not to mention the chaos happening at the Sacks tower must be related to this. Shredder was seen plugging down from the top and crashed on the ground, hopefully he's dead now. " Kenji started to explain." I should have never left you, I am so sorry -- "

Kanae shook her head. " I am relief that there's no casualties -- that woman worked with the Foot, I saw her at the subway and at Sacks' estate. I think she has a grudge over me now. Wait, so Shredder is being arrested as we speak? No one is being poisoned? "

Her uncle nodded in confirmation and Kanae let out a relief sigh, a smile on her face. The turtles and April managed to stop Shredder and Sacks. They did it. Now the only thing she had to worry about was how much injuries her friends had now...she prayed that none were fatal. She should check on them later.

Kenji scowled, shooting a glare at the window Karai escaped through.

" When I get my hands on that *b**ch* -- "

" *Oji-san?!?* " "

Chapter 9: Unordinary Life

It had been three days since Sacks and Shredder tried to do chaos to New York City, only for their plan to be foiled by the brave, unlikely, four brothers. But of course, the public didn't know that; instead, they were given another story of how it was the Channel 6 cameraman who stepped in fighting Shredder himself. Seems odd, but rather than exposing the turtles' existence, this was the safest routine. Vern didn't seem to mind that much too, he even looked quite happy with the attention he was receiving. He did seem guilty on taking all the credits when he gave Donatello a credit card with a large amount of money to be used for their necessities (" I have a lot now anyway " Vern rubbed his nose)

By what Kanae had read in the newspaper, the Sacks tower had collapsed and there were many who got injured, but thankfully there was no casualties. Sacks was arrested after his contribution with the Foot Clan was known, Shredder already in the hands of authority as well.

April had dropped by to Kanae's ward in the morning after she had woken up. The brunette looked tired and had a few cuts here and there, but otherwise she looked just fine. April filled in what the public didn't know, how the turtles went to fight the Shredder up on the tower. When she finished, her eyebrows knitted and by seeing her change of expression, Kanae knew she was preparing to tell her something important.

" Kanae... there's something you should know," she took a stool to sit on beside the ward bed, the smile she had on vanished as she took Kanae's hand in hers, " when Vern and I went to get the mutagen from Sacks -- he revealed that he was the one who killed our fathers. He shot them with a gun right after they destroyed the labs years ago. "

The girl's eyes widened, before she closed them and took a deep breath. Kanae held April's hand tighter, her chest felt tight. There were no words exchanged between the two unfortunate souls. The new discovery was painful, how their father's were betrayed by someone they thought they could trust...but at the end of the day, the world now knew Sacks' true colour, and that was the best revenge they both could have for what he did.

April sighed, deciding to break the silence. " By the way, when will you be discharged? The turtles want to meet us up for a quick update. I heard that Splinter is doing better, thanks to the mutagen. "

" I am glad to hear that. The doctors have checked how's my heart is doing after the whole electrocution thing, and patched up my wrist and ankle. They give me the green light to leave after two days. "

So right after two days, Kenji drove Kanae to the location April had tipped her off. The man insisted on tagging along, wanting to keep a closer eye on his niece after everything that happened. Kenji helped Kanae hop out of the car, handing her the clutch she used to walk, right in time to see Vern and April waving at them.

" And here's New York fifth ninja." Vern greeted, leaning against a black car none of them had seen before. " Hey look, we match." He wiggled the fingers of the hand in the arm sling, similar to Kanae's left arm sling.

" Ninja? Really? " Kanae grinned.

" You were the one who fought with a sword beside the turtles. " He shrugged.

" You must be Vern, April told me about you." Kenji tipped his head at him.

The cameraman gave a bewildered look at the brunette. " Oh, did you mention how awesome I am fighting the Foot? "

" Oh, yeah, you were really awesome." April didn't bother to hide the sarcasm in her voice. " Mind telling us the new car? "

Vern turned to look at the vehicle, eyes sparkled with admiration to his new car. " Yeah, you're looking at the new Fenwick Express. Pretty sweet, huh? Kind of an upgrade. I figured I'd need new wheels after my old work vehicle went boom. " He smiled. " Channel 6 gave it to me. They said don't put a scratch on it, but, like, lightning's going to strike twice? "

" I know the turtles couldn't meet up in a nice restaurant or something, but a creepy underpass in an abandoned neighborhood in the middle of the night? " Kenji stuffed his hands into his pocket, looking around.

All of their attention turned to the arrival of another vehicle, honking at them. The turtles had gotten themselves their own vehicle too it seemed, clearly upgraded by Donnie who was the one in the driving seat. The door of the car slide opened, and Mikey's head popped out.

" DJ Mikey in the house! " He beat-boxing as a greeting to them.

Beside Kanae, Kenji sighed. " Yeah, not gonna get used to this soon. "

The black-haired girl giggled as April helped her move towards the turtles. Leo poked out his head from the window on the seat next to the driver, the rare smile of his curved on his face.

" We figured we owed you a thanks for keeping our secret. " He said. " Not to mention you, Kanae, fighting along our side. "

" You know, you had a lot to gain from telling people about us, " Raph began as soon as they saw him in the car, " but you had our backs. "

April nodded. " Yeah, cause that's what family's for, Raph. "

" I pride myself to be great in keeping secrets." Said Kanae.

The red-masked turtle locked his gaze on her, he started to play with his fingers nervously. " I also need to apologize to yer', for being rude and accusing you bad things before. I am sorry, Kanae. "

A soft smile made up on her face. " I accept your apology. I get that you were worried about your brothers' safety. I hope we can be great friends in times to come, Raphael. "

The soft chuckle and genuine smile coming from the usually grumpy terrapin was a much more rare sight to see. Kanae's smile widened, knowing that the turtles' trust on them had increased more than before. It felt like an honour.

" So you guys are driving now? " Vern raised his eyebrows, checking the vehicle.

Donnie leaned his seat backward, " Yeah, man, I pimped this bad boy out. " Colourful light suddenly flickered in the car and they now noticed the sight of disco ball on the ceiling of the car. " Got a 42-inch plasma with the NBA package, shave ice machine, 7.1 digital surround sound. " The purple-masked turtle sounded very proud of his handiwork.

" Check the bass, brah." Mikey grinned, flipping a switch and a literal missile popped out of the hood.

Vern and Kenji's faces paled, April and Kanae's eyes widened; they watched the missile being launched towards Vern's new car and exploded. The cameraman man let out a horrified gasp, while Kenji had his arms shielding Kanae and April.

Mikey fidgeted in guilty behind. " My bad. I'm still figuring out the buttons."

" That was my new Fenwick Express! " Vern honestly looked like he could cry there. " I just...I just got that."

Leo retreated back into his seat, not wanting to deal with his brother's damage. " We better get out of here. Want a ride home? "

April placed her hands on Vern, comforting the now sad man. " You know what? I think we're gonna take the subway. "

" Oji-san has a ride to go back home."

" Please don't get near my car." Kenji crossed his arms over chest.

Mikey leaned forward. " You sure? I got a real nice song that's all cued up. It's special, girls. "

Raph shook his head. " No, don't. "

" For us -- "

" Come on, Mikey. " Leo rolled his eyes.

" -- yeah I am good. "

" No, no, no, Mikey, you promised! " Donnie groaned from his seat.

The youngest turtle began to break into a song. " *It's happening. Imagine me and you. I do --* "

" Stop singing right now. " His other brothers clamored, being ignored by the singing turtle as he kept going.

Kenji leaned down to his niece, whispering, " Please tell me he doesn't flirt with you all the time. " which earned a snort from the girl.

The engine roaring to life, Mikey being pulled inside by Raph as the door closed. Kanae and April grinned as they watched the brothers chorused together;

" I am making really good headway! "

" Shut up, Mikey! "

They watched the vehicle drove away, the muffled sound exploded when the backdoor swung opened, Mikey still in his element as the song '*Happy Together by The Turtles* (ironically) ' blasting on stereo.

" I can't see me loving nobody but you, for all my life! "

Laughing, Kanae and April shot out their arm, waving at their mutant turtles friends. Yes, days like this would soon to be expected in the future.

Crazy how sometimes life doesn't really goes as planned, right? Maybe you already planned on a normal life, but then life tugged you into another scenario where you had to pick up a sword again to help people and honestly?

Kocho Kanae could lived with that.

Chapter 10: Epilogue

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

Three months had passed; Vern still maintaining his image as the city's hero, April had got herself a new job in journalism department, Kenji's dojo was still busting with students, and Kanae had a couple of college she listed to attend after high school. The turtles and Splinter had to move into another sewer location after their old one being blasted and wrecked by the Foot Clan, and with the help of their human friends, they managed to settle in nicely.

When Leo informed Kanae of their place movement, she asked her classmates to donate anything they didn't need anymore like toaster or blankets, the necessities and such. It started out small, then words spread and everyone in the school had something to donate to her, including the teacher as well. She had quite the famous good reputation, so it was to be expected when everyone figured out about her unofficial donating event.

Kanae had to make up an excuse to cover the truth on the purpose of the donation and luckily no one didn't question her for it. She tried to hide this from the turtles, ready to surprise them with the mountain donations she received, when April strolled in the lair one day as they helped the turtles with setting on the TV and asking her out loud why someone just dropped a whole fridge in front of her house. The cat is out of the bag, no thanks to April (she apologized), and the turtles were very taken back by the amount of donations Kanae managed to receive.

Thanking her by words didn't seemed enough after she basically found them kitchen tools, mattresses, blankets, and more; Donnie built Kanae a night vision glasses so she could see better in the dark (he even put communication button on it so she could contact them with a single push button), Leo gifted her a small bonsai tree (the fact that he cherished the type of tree made Kanae felt very honoured), Raph knitted her a few beautiful sweaters (she would proudly wore them in school and he would blushed in embarrassment when being told that) and Mikey offered to bake her dessert everytime she went to have meals with them (he was surprisingly the most skillful in cooking among his brothers. His lemon poppy seed muffins was the best). Splinter gave Kanae a few collection of herbal teas he collected as his own thank you.

Kenji managed to adapt in this mutant insert life quite sooner than Kanae had thought. Maybe because he knew the turtles saved his niece and were capable of keeping her safe when needed. He even crafted Leo a new handmade katana sword after one of the pair had badly damaged in battling Shredder (Leo was shaking in excitement as he received the sword, getting on his knees and bowed at the flustered man). Kenji had offered to help with developing their material arts, thus he kept going down the lair to teach Splinter and the turtles whenever he could.

The new lair had completely being cleaned and decorated by now. The turtles invited their humans friends for dinner as a celebration of their victory. Kanae and Kenji weren't fond of pizza anymore after being served way too much, so they brought steamboat equipments.

Seeing that it was the first time the mutants were having steamboats, it was funny to see how excited and curious they were.

The night was going well; Kenji and Splinter exchanging new fighting movements, Raph and Mikey stealing the grilled chicken from Vern's plate without being noticed, Leo trying the udon broth powder April had brought and was chucking in the water at the level of spiciness with the brunette laughing beside him, while Kanae giving explanation to Donnie on difference of the Chinese, Japanese and Korean chopsticks.

" Hey, Kanae, remember the thing you promised? " Raph's sentence caught everyone's attention.

" You might need to be more specific." She tilted her head, wiping her lips with a tissue.

He hummed, pointing at her with the spoon in his hand. " Yer' said to me that after we get everyone safe and back home, you're going to tell us an interesting story of yours. "

" Ooh! Let's spice this dish up! Spill the tea! " Mikey dropped the chicken piece he took from Vern's plate and rushed to sit near the girl.

By now, everyone had their eyes on her. Kenji raised his eyebrows, understanding what the story might be about. Kanae put her plate on the table, placing her hands on her lap and made herself comfortable in her seat.

Looking at her new family, she smiled in contentment, eyes softened.

" Centuries ago, there was this unofficial organization called the Demon Slayer..."

|| Bloom -- End ||

¶ *Taisho Secret* ¶

- Hearing the event with Kanae and Karai, the turtles offered to guard her house sometimes in case the Foot soldiers try to get her again. April was offered the same thing as well, but both girls refused, not sure that they like the idea of a huge terrapin stalking around their house.
- Of course everyone didn't believe Kanae about being reincarnated at first, but then it explained a lot about how she was so skillful in fighting, not to mention that she wasn't the type to lie about things like that, so they started to believe her.
- She taught Splinter and the turtles Total Concentration Breathing sometimes. It really helped with developing their skill and speed.
- Kanae worried about how the turtles would manage their feelings and social communication, with them being stuck underground for so long, so she had them sit in a circle and explained what to do, not to do, differences between healthy and toxic friendship/relationship and how to handle related subjects.

- In her past life, Kanae had a great siblings relationship with Shinobu and Kanao, so she made sure the turtles treated their brothers with healthy treatments. She knew that they were still teenagers and needed to learn a lot more, so she focused on helping their mental state growing healthy.
- Kanae contribute a lot in helping the turtles grow mature. With her help, there were less misunderstandings and the brothers slowly got comfortable in expressing their opinions and feelings.
- Kanae and April have become like sisters to the turtles, while Kenji was treated with the same respect they gave to Splinter. Vern remained their friend that covered the truth for them (not like he had any complaints about it).

Chapter End Notes

So that wrapped it up! Thank you so much for reading this crossover! 🍷 Maybe I'll make the sequel one, who knows I might add another KNY character maybe 👁️👁️👁️

Please [drop by the Archive and comment](#) to let the creator know if you enjoyed their work!